Shri R. G. Dubey: This question does not arise, because Government have certain factories in Sambhar, Kharagoda etc. They have got their own organisation. But otherwise, it is a private industry entirely and we have nothing to do with it except a general sort of supervision regarding distribution etc.

Maithon Dam

*2314. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Maithon Dam was scheduled completed by the end of 1954-55; and
- (b) what progress has been made so far and whether the project is likely to be completed by the target date?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 60 per cent. of the work on Earth Dam has been completed while work on the Concrete Dam has also commenced. The Dam is expected to be completed by the target date. The gates will take 3 months more.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if it is a fact that 50 per cent. of the work on the concrete dam was scheduled to be completed by 1953-54, but that actual work has not begun and a full working season has been lost already?

Shri Hathi: The original schedule for the work was that the completion of the dam would be by September 1954? But because of late deliveries of the plant, the work could not begin according to that schedule. But as the hon. Member has mentioned, the latest target is 1954-55, and work is going according to that schedule.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the original plans for the Maithon and Panchet dams are likely to be changed slightly?

Shri Hathi: I do not think so. It may be about Panchet, but I am not quite sure.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: By what time power will be available from this dam?

Shri Hathi: The original tentative schedule was-end of 1954. But it is likely that it may be late by a few months. It depends upon the arrival of the turbines and generators.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether the construction of the power house has been started?

Shri Hathi: Not yet constructed.

HOUSE RENT CHARGED FROM DISPLACED. Persons

*2315. Shri Shobha Ram: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state what principles are adopted in determining the house rent to be charged from the displaced persons in urban areas?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 49.]

Shri Shobha Ram: May I know whether this amount is charged from D.Ps. in all the towns or whether there is any discrimination made on the basis of population?

Shri A. P. Jain: No discrimination is being made. The principles on which rent is charged are laid down.

Shri Shobha Ram: May I know whether the D.Ps. settled on agricultural land have to pay the houserent?

Shri A. P. Jain: In fact, this question does not relate to agricultural land. It relates only to urban areas. Nonetheless, I am prepared to answer No rent is being charged on houses alloted to agriculturists.

Shri Shobha Ram: My question is this. Where D. Ps. are settled on land in the vicinity of towns, but reside in the towns, have they to pay houserent or not?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as urban areas are concerned, rent is being charged from the allottees.

FRENCH INDIA

- *2316. Shri Raghuramaiah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any proposals from the Government of France suggesting condominium status for French India; and
- (b) if so, what reply Government have given?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether there is any other specific proposal received from the Government of France which is going to form the basis of discussions on the 14th of this month in Paris?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: No specific proposals have been made. A delegation will go from here to Paris and hold discussions there.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether there is any truth in one of the newspaper reports flashed from Paris that in a note delivered to our Prime Minister at Colombo, the French Government wanted a clear outline of the concessions India would grant in case of French withdrawal?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am not aware of it.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawahar-lal Nehru): May I say I have not received any letter at Colombo as alleged by the hon. Member?

WAR REPARATIONS MACHINERY

- *2317. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Inspection Team set up to carry out the necessary examination of the items of machinery

- of war reparations received from Germany and to suggest possible uses of these machines, have completed the examination now; and
- (b) whether all the machines would be usable by I and II priorities of Defence and Railways?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what was the number and book-value of the stores that are still lying there, and have not been given to any Government organization?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Actually, it is not a case of giving to any Government organization. In fact Government organization is not requiring any one of them. The total number of machines was 743. I have not got the figures relating to the book-value.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether, if they are not required by Government, they are now to be sold in auction, or, what use is going to be made of those machines?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Tenders have been invited with regard to the remaining machines.

COAL PRODUCTION FUND

- *2318. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the account of the Coal Production Fund which has ceased to function, have since been finalised;
- (b) if so, the amount outstanding thereof; and
- (c) how this amount is proposed to be spent?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) No; the accounts relating to certain items have yet to be finalised.

(b) The final position of the accounts is not yet available.