

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes.

(b) Excepting Andhra and Andaman and Nicobar Islands which have been addressed only recently, all other States have announced their schemes.

(c) 124.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether all the State Governments which have accepted this scheme have laid down a uniform scale as regards the area of land to be given to the recipients of the gallantry awards?

**Sardar Majithia:** No. It is not uniform. As a matter of fact, the Central Government drew the attention of the State Governments to the practice which was prevailing before 1947 and as a result of that, they were left to their own resources to announce awards to those people who get these awards and they have given at more or less the same standard.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether there are any State Governments which have granted lump sums to the recipients of these awards?

**Sardar Majithia:** Yes. Quite a lot of money has been allotted. Naturally, Punjab comes in the lead by giving Rs. 1,82,000. West Bengal comes with Rs. 25,000 and Bombay Rs. 27,500 and so on.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What is the total acreage of land so far granted to these people?

**Sardar Majithia:** I am afraid I have not got the figures at the moment. Roughly, I can say that for the highest award, it is round about 25 acres and for the next highest it is about 12 acres and so on.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** May I know whether there is any special reason for asking the State Governments to give cash grants to these people to whom the Central Government gives gallantry awards?

**Sardar Majithia:** Yes. The hon. Member knows that the gallantry

awards are medals. People distinguish themselves on the field of battle and they get a commendation from the Central Government in the shape of that award, and in addition to that the State Governments give them some land and also some monetary grant as further encouragement.

N. C. C.

**\*430. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the amount that was spent by the State Governments on National Cadet Corps during 1953-54; and

(b) whether the State Governments have intimated to the Centre of any extraordinary increase in the number of centres intended to be opened during 1954-55?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) About 111 lakhs.

(b) The expansion programme for the current year contemplates a total increase of about 22,500 cadets at different centres.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What is the present total strength?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The present total strength is about 78,000. It used to be 83,498 up to last March, but from this session the Bombay Government have discontinued the Junior Division and so it has come down to about 78,000. —

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether the special committee appointed to examine the curriculum of N.C.C. cadets has recommended any special changes in their training course.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** No special committee was appointed to review the syllabus of the N.C.C. as a whole. It was set up to draw up a syllabus for the junior wing of the Girls Division which is being started this year.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What is the proportion of the girl cadets to the total strength?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The girl cadets, as the hon. Member knows, numbered only 600 or so last year. I think, by the end of this year, the number will go up to 5,000 which means about 800 per cent. increase.

**Sardar Hukam Singh rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### CORRUPTION

\*431. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1145 asked on the 18th March, 1954 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision regarding the recommendation of the Planning Commission, namely, that Government servants against whom an allegation of corruption appears in the press should be required to clear their names by instituting legal action; and

(b) if so, what is the decision?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) Yes.

(b) It has been decided that when Government's attention is drawn to specific allegations of corruption made in the Press against an individual officer, they should first cause a preliminary enquiry by a senior officer. If the preliminary enquiry indicates—

- (i) that the allegations were baseless and defamatory in nature and should not be allowed to pass lightly;
- (ii) that the allegations were not free from doubt and the best method of eliciting the truth would be by proceeding in court;

action should then be taken to take the matter to a Court of Law. Where

the allegations are not so serious, however, it may be sufficient to publish the results of the enquiry and openly contradict the allegations for the information of the public. On the other hand, where the preliminary enquiry shows that there is need for further detailed enquiry, Government should consider a regular investigation by the Special Police Establishment or a full departmental enquiry under the Classification, Control and Appeal Rules.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know if there were any occasions on which such allegations were made in the press during the last two years?

**Shri Datar:** There was one case where such allegations had been made, and then when a suit was threatened, an apology followed.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know where this occurred, in which State?

**Shri Datar:** I am dealing with the Central Government, not the States.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether corruption in the office of an officer can be attributed to his incompetence and can also be ascribed as some sort of corruption on his part?

**Shri Datar:** I do not follow the hon. Member.

**Mr. Speaker:** The point, it appears to me, is: supposing an officer himself is not corrupt, but is so incompetent that he is unable to check corruption even though going on under his nose, will that be construed as corruption?

**Shri Datar:** That officer would be treated as incompetent to hold the office and departmental proceedings will be started against him for incompetency.