

[**Shri L. B. Shastri:** The quarters so far built are not meant for such employees.]

श्री धुलेकर क्या सरकार इस योजना में यह बात रखे भी कि जो मकानात बनाये जा रहे हैं वह हायर परचेज सिस्टम के मुताबिक उन को दे दिये जायेंगे जो उनमें रहते हैं।

[**Shri Dhulekar:** Will the Government incorporate a provision in the plan that the houses would be made the property of those who reside in them on the basis of hire purchase system?]

श्री ऐल० बी० शास्त्री : जी नहीं, ऐसी योजना नहीं है।

[**Shri L. B. Shastri:** No, Sir, there is no such scheme.]

Shri Dhusiya: What would be the dimension of one house and how many members would be accommodated in one house?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is going into many details. He may study the plans.

श्री बादशह गुप्त : जो जमीन ली जाने वाली है क्या उसका फंसला हो चुका है।

[**Shri Badshah Gupta:** Has a final decision been made about the land that is to be acquired?]

श्री ऐल० बी० शास्त्री : जी हां, जमीन का फंसला हो चुका है।

[**Shri L. B. Shastri:** Yes, this has been decided.]

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know how do these tenements compare with those that have been already built in Chittaranjan?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I am not quite sure as I do not know the details, but I hope they will be as far as possible built on the pattern of Chittaranjan.

Shri Nambiar: What steps the Government have taken on the representation received on the construction of houses which are very small, say, for instance, A, B, C and D type quarters now under construction?

Shri L. B. Shastri: This question concerns the Kanpur colony. The hon. Member has put a very general question. That question of providing more space in the existing quarters A, B, C and D is under consideration.

FOOD SUBSIDY (PRICES)

*524. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the extent to which prices of foodgrains have risen as a result of the stoppage of food subsidy?

(b) What has been the percentage of the increases so far as cereals are concerned in the States of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Bombay, Madras and Madhya Pradesh?

(c) Has any assessment been made of the effect of this on wage level and prices of consumer goods?

(d) Has the stoppage of food subsidy adversely affected procurement of foodgrains in the States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Attention is invited to the statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to part (b) of starred question No. 40 by Shri B. K. Das on 20th May 1952.

(b) A statement indicating the percentage of increase in respect of overseas wheat, coarse rice and milo is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 25.]

(c) No.

(d) There is no indication that the stoppage of subsidy has adversely affected procurement of foodgrains in the States.

Shri Kidwai: I want to make a little correction in the statement. It has been shown that in the U.P. also there has been some rise in the issue price. I do not know how it came in, because it is not correct. They are contemplating to raise the price, but they have not yet raised it.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether as a result of rise in issue prices, the Government of India have instructed the Provincial Governments to raise the procurement price also?

Shri Kidwai: The Government of India is on the contrary suggesting that in some States where wheat and other cereals are available in abundance and the black market and the open market price is lower, the procurement price should be lowered.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the Government are aware that as a result of stoppage of food subsidy there have been demands from labourers for a rise in wages?

Shri Kidwai: Wherever there has been a rise in the price of foodgrains the demand for rise in wages is very natural.

Shri T. N. Singh: Has any attempt been made by Government to correlate the higher cost of living with the wage level?

Shri Kidwai: So far as the organized labour is concerned in most places this is so.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether in Bombay State the issue price of cereals has increased by 47 per cent?

Shri Kidwai: In Bombay it is 47.6 per cent.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know whether wheat has not been taken even before the stoppage of subsidy in Madras?

Shri Kidwai: In Madras State there is some wheat which the Government has now declared as surplus.

Shri Thanu Pillai: Is it a fact that because of non-taking of this wheat it became rotten and when it was distributed, it was made much fuss of by some parties that we are giving rotten wheat to the people?

Shri Kidwai: I am not aware of this, but I can accept the hon. Member's statement.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: In how many states *satyagraha* was offered on the stoppage of this subsidy?

Shri Kidwai: I think it was offered in only one state and that is Bombay.

Shri T. N. Singh: Are the Government aware of the fact that this year procurement has been lower so far in almost every State as compared with the previous year. As a result of the further lowering of prices, do Government expect the procurement target to be reached?

Shri Kidwai: This information is quite contrary. In most of the *mandis* in Northern India more grain is being brought for procurement than Government can cope with.

FERTILISERS DEAL

*527. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have ordered a fresh enquiry into the purchase, handling, forward-

ing and distribution of fertilisers from July 1, 1946 on the basis of the findings of Mr. Justice G. S. Rajadhyaksha of the Bombay High Court?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): On the basis of the findings of Mr. Justice G. S. Rajadhyaksha, Government has ordered Police investigations.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: May I know what are the exact reasons for ordering a fresh enquiry?

Shri Kidwai: It is not a fresh enquiry. Justice Rajadhyaksha found that it is a Police case and the case has been handed over to the Police.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Is it true that certain officers involved in the above scandal are being transferred to other Ministries?

Shri Kidwai: The enquiry report is still confidential. As every Member of the House is aware certain officers have been arrested pending a prosecution.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: What is the amount involved in the scandal?

Shri Kidwai: It is differently estimated. In one case it is about Rs. 86 lakhs and the other is a guess work as to what would have been the cost if the order had been placed at a certain time and this is Rs. 68 lakhs or less.

MAHARAJA OF MANIPUR (ALLOWANCES)

*528. **Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state what was the monthly allowance of the present Maharajah of Manipur before integration of the State with the Government of India?

(b) What is the present allowance enjoyed by the Maharajah?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Rupees one lakh and sixty thousand per annum (Rs. 1,60,000).

(b) Rupees three lakhs per annum (Rs. 3,00,000) but this is inclusive of the allowances to be paid to the relatives of the Ruler, expenditure on certain armed guards, and the maintenance of palaces etc.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know what is the annual average income of Manipur State?

Dr. Katju: I can give you a guess, but I am not quite sure of the figure.