

Shri V. G. Deshpande: Are the officers of this army Members of the National Conference?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say; I hope, so.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: In view of the fact that our Government has spent 50 or 60 lakhs, have we any say in the formation of the militia or control of its operations.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Our seconded officers are there. I do not know what other control the hon. Member is thinking of. It is our officers who supervise and train them.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the unsettled situation in Kashmir, may I know whether the Government are proposing to strengthen this national militia?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is a matter for the Jammu and Kashmir Government: not for us to determine.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: May I know, Sir, who deals with the deserters of this militia?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The persons who catch them.

— AID TO UNIVERSITIES FUND

*1513. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governing Body of the Aid to Universities Fund recently established has been constituted and is functioning;

(b) if so, what is the total amount that has been contributed by the Central Government?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) It has not been considered necessary to constitute a Governing Body at present. If at a later date the need for a Governing Body arises, this matter will be given due consideration.

(b) The Government of India have not contributed any amount to the Fund which is intended to be made up of only voluntary contributions and donations from associations and individuals.

Shri S. N. Das: The Resolution under which the University Fund was to be constituted stated that the Governing Body would be constituted soon. May I know, Sir, the reasons that led Government to postpone that?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Government do not consider, as I have said, that

there is any need for a Governing Body to be set up just now.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the fund was created by any Resolution or by order of the Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Government had nothing to do with the resolution, or the passing of the resolution.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the grants that are made out of this amount are made in an *ad hoc* manner, or are they paid for some specific purpose?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This Fund is managed by the Chairman of the Fund Committee, and the Minister for Education is the Chairman of the Fund Committee.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Has all the amount that was promised by an hon. Member of this House amounting to a lakh of rupees been received by Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir, it is being received.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the scope of the Fund—whether it would cover all the Universities or some of the Universities?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All the Universities.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: What is the total so far collected for this fund?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have not got the figure, Sir, but some individuals have donated to it, and instalments are arriving.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it not a fact that not more than Rs. 10,000/- have so far been collected?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is giving information.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We have not been able to collect any large sum for this fund.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, what steps have been taken or are being taken by Government in order to encourage voluntary contributions?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The attempt has only begun and amounts are gradually coming.

Shri K. K. Basu: In view of the fact that there is a large volume of concealed income, did Government make any appeal to those persons to contribute to this fund?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir.