

asked by Shri Sidhva on the 11th October, 1951, regarding the pamphlet entitled "Corruption in C.P.W.D." and state whether any compensation was paid by Government to the family of the two military officers who died as a result of the collapse of a part of this building (Office 'K' Block cases, 1945)?

(b) Was any notice taken of the remarks of the Trial Court that persons responsible for the death of the military officers were those in charge of the faulty construction and if so, was any action taken against any of those officers?

(c) What happened to the bills of the Contractors whose payment had been stopped?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The information is not readily available.

(b) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

As regards the latter part I have nothing to add to item (3) of the statement referred to in part (a) of the question.

(c) The contractors whose payment had been stopped, have not yet been paid their bills which are under scrutiny.

BRICKS AND COAL CASES

357. Sardar Hukam Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to the Short Notice Question asked by Shri Sidhva on the 11th October, 1951, regarding the pamphlet entitled "Corruption in C.P.W.D." and state what action (if any) was ultimately taken against the officers who were charge-sheeted (the Executive Engineer and the S.D.O.) in respect of bricks and coal cases of former Special Division No. 1 (1944)?

(b) What was the final decision in the case of the S.D.O. whose pension had been withheld?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The case is under consideration of the Government.

(b) The pension of the officer concerned has been reduced to 75 per cent. of what he would normally have been entitled to.

TIMBER CASE OF FORMER CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

358. Sardar Hukam Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the state-

ment laid on the Table of the House in reply to the Short Notice Question asked by Shri Sidhva on the 11th October, 1951, regarding the pamphlet entitled "Corruption in C. P.W.D." and state whether any Executive Engineer was also charge-sheeted by the Department in the Timber Case of Former Construction Division (1945)?

(b) If so, what happened to him after enquiry?

(c) What departmental action was ultimately taken against the S.D.O. who was being proceeded against?

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

(b) and (c). The case is under the consideration of the Government.

FREE DOLES TO DISPLACED PERSONS

359. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided to increase the rate of free doles to unattached, old, and infirm displaced persons owing to increase in food prices; and

(b) if so, what are the new rates?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The rates for displaced persons from West Pakistan were revised recently. Some changes in prices are always taking place and it is not possible to make changes in the rate of doles too often.

(b) Does not arise.

PRIME MINISTER'S NATIONAL RELIEF FUND

360. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the total amount of money given to different States as contributions from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund since the inception of that Fund?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): A statement giving the information required is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 57.]

Many of the contributions received were earmarked for particular purposes, more especially for food relief in areas of distress and scarcity. An appeal for foodgrains for relief in Bihar and Madras last year brought many contributions. Ultimately it was considered more practical to sell these foodgrains locally and send the price recovered to Bihar and Madras.