

Shri A. C. Guba: May I know if at the time of the cease-fire there were any civilian prisoners from the other side with us, and if so, what has happened to them?

Shri Satish Chandra: I require notice for that.

BETTERMENT FEE

*1063. **Dr. Nataraj Pandey:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sought to be realised from the levy of betterment fee from the people affected by the Hirakud Dam Project; and

(b) whether the amount greatly exceeds the total annual income of the whole of the State of Orissa?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the Government of Orissa and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

INDIAN CENTRAL OIL-SEEDS COMMITTEE

*1064. **Shri Kandasamy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Central Oil-seeds Committee has requested Government to give it representation on the Export Advisory Council; and

(b) what decision has finally been taken?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Representation was given to two members of the Oil and Oil-seeds export trade who were also, at the time, members of the Indian Central Oil-seeds Committee. The question of making any changes will be considered when the Council is due for reconstitution next October.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know what is the composition of this Committee?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice. The information has been published in the Gazette, which is available in the Library.

SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR CONTRACTS BY D.V.C.

*1065. **Shri Sankarapandian:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Damodar Valley Corporation is maintaining a schedule of rates for giving contracts;

(b) if so, from what year; and

(c) on what basis the schedule rate is fixed?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Since 1949.

(c) The rates of schedule were worked out on the basis of prevailing rates of labour and material. The specifications that were followed in drawing up the schedule were compiled from the specifications for works in Chota Nagpur Circle of Bihar Public Works Department, almost all the work-sites of the Corporation being located in that circle.

CONTRACTS BY D.V.C.

*1066. **Shri Sankarapandian:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Damodar Valley Corporation gives contracts by negotiation without competitive tenders being called for?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Contracts are invariably given after obtaining competitive tenders except in some rare cases where the work involved is small and of an urgent nature.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know whether tenders are invited from all over India if the amount exceeds a certain sum, say, Rs. 20,000 or 30,000?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I should like to have notice of the question.

FIFTH REPORT OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

*1067. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state if any action has been taken to remedy the danger and drawbacks in having the same person to prepare proposals and estimate and also to sanction and execute the works pointed out by the Estimates Committee in its Fifth Report (1951-52) para 12?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): This question was transferred only this morning and it has not therefore been possible to circulate the answer. The general principle urged in this paragraph seems *prima facie* sound, but as I have said before in the House, the whole of the report is under examination at the moment and it is not possible to give a conclusive answer at this stage.

Shri Kelappan: Is it not a fact that the Estimates Committee recommended last year that the Commission should

be a body separate from the Secretariat and that the Chairman should not have any *ex-officio* status in the Ministry or have a hand in the administrative machinery? If so, why has not this recommendation been implemented?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not aware of the fact that there was a similar recommendation made last year.

FACTORIES MANAGED BY COMMONWEALTH TRUST

*1068. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the factories in Malabar and South Kanara managed by the Commonwealth Trust Incorporated in England belong to the India Government;

(b) how Government earn by those properties;

(c) what the properties comprised in the Trust are;

(d) how the profits are disbursed and who the beneficiaries are;

(e) what, if any, is the accumulated profit;

(f) whether Government have received any complaints regarding the management of the Trust;

(g) whether Government will institute an enquiry into the working of the Trust; and

(h) what the terms of the Trust are?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c), (d), (e) and (h). Government have no information.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) It is not proposed to institute any enquiry.

Shri Kelappan: The property that is now being managed by the Commonwealth Trust Ltd. belonged to the Germans and during the war it was confiscated as enemy property by the Government of India. I want to know to whom it belongs now—to the Government of India, or to the Company itself?

Shri Karmarkar: It does not belong to the Government of India. According to information available with us, the Commonwealth Trust Ltd., incorporated in England, have seven tile

factories in South India. This Company is an absolutely independent entity and it manages its own affairs. We have nothing to do with it.

Shri Damodara Menon: The hon. Minister does not seem to have understood the question. The point is whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that this property belonged to the Germans.

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir. We are not aware. We have requested the Madras Government to supply particulars about the Commonwealth Trust Ltd. It does not certainly belong to us.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS:

UNATTACHED WOMEN AND ORPHANS

*1035. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state what was the number of unattached woman and orphans in Yol Camp on the 1st March, 1951 and on 1st March, 1952?

(b) What help has been given to them?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 906 and 940 respectively.

(b) The persons in question are given cash doles, and basic cereal rations in addition to clothing both cotton and woollen and free supply of firewood besides medical attendance. Those amongst them who can benefit by it are provided free education in the camp school and free training in the Training-cum-Work Centre in the Camp.

SHOPS IN KHURSHED LAL MARKET

*1037. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of one shop in the Khurshed Lal Market constructed in Sadar Bazar Delhi; and

(b) the monthly rental charged from an allottee of such premises?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) As the market has not yet been completed, it is not possible to indicate the cost of each shop.

(b) Rent has not yet been fixed.

SILK (PRODUCTION AND IMPORT)

*1038. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state: