

once to the committee of enquiry set up to go into the D.V.C. project?

Shri Hathi: The reason is the excess over the estimated cost?

Shri B. K. Das: May I know how much has been the excess amount spent over the estimated cost?

Shri Hathi: The original estimate was Rs. 1.95 crores, but the cost has at present come to rupees three crores.

Shri N. P. Sinha: In regard to question 1058, may I know how many houses have actually been occupied by the displaced persons from out of the number of houses said to have been constructed?

Shri Hathi: I require notice for giving that information about the number of houses that have been actually occupied.

Shri N. P. Sinha: May I know, that there was an assurance given by the Government that displaced persons will be given house for house and land for land, and if yes, may I enquire whether that assurance has been carried out?

Shri Hathi: In fact, so far as this particular dam is concerned, those who wanted houses have been given houses, and those who wanted land have been given land.

Shri G. P. Sinha: May I know if at all there is any person who does not want a house in the place of a house?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the meaning of this cross-examination? He has clearly said that those who wanted houses have been given houses. Others may build their own houses.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: I did not follow what the hon. Minister said in regard to the canals for irrigation purposes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He said that no new canals have been dug and that the old canals are being used.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: As far as the houses are concerned, may I know whether the houses were built according to the taste of the people who had to live there, or according to the taste of some whimsical engineer?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Otherwise, how would they go and occupy the houses as they did? Cannot the hon. Member put a question without the word "whimsical" being added to it?

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: I love that word

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should he have spoken it?

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: That is my whim, Sir. I want to know whether the houses were built according to the taste of the people who were expected to live in them?

Shri Hathi: The houses were built according to the plinth area and the standard type designs, and not according to the taste of any individual occupants.

CULTURAL DELEGATIONS

*1029 **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether any reports have been submitted to Government by the Cultural Delegations sent, in the last three years, to different countries and if so, whether any constructive suggestions or recommendations had been made in any of these Reports for taking any action so as to improve our relations and strengthen our friendship with the countries concerned?

(b) What is the cost of each of these missions or delegations to the Government of India during each of these years, and the budgeted amount on the same account during the current financial year (1952-53)?

(c) Has any action been taken by Government to implement any of these suggestions or recommendations made in any of these missions or delegations' Reports?

(d) Are there any rules regarding the despatch of any such mission or delegation to a foreign country, including the selection of personnel, presents to be made and the brief or instructions given to such delegations?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (c). Various types of delegations have gone abroad during the last three years. Some of these had been unofficial, others official. Some of the official ones consisted of artists accompanying Art Exhibitions or giving dance recitals. Reports are always received when important missions are sent. These reports are treated as confidential and are not released for publication. Any recommendations made in the report are carefully considered and, where possible, given effect to.

(b) A list of delegations, both official and non-official, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 12.] This shows the approximate cost, if any, incurred by

Government in the case of each delegation. No specific budget provision exists for such cultural delegations, but a consolidated amount of rupees two lakhs has been provided for cultural activities abroad during 1952-53.

(d) There are no hard and fast rules for such delegations. Selection of personnel, presents, if any, to be made, and the instructions given, vary from country to country and are related to the purposes for which the visits are undertaken.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any regulations—and if that be not possible any conventions to be conformed to in respect of the relations between the delegations that are sent from here to various countries, and the permanent representatives of our delegations in the countries to which such delegations go?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Our permanent representatives naturally give every help and assistance to these delegations.

Shrimati A. Kale: Do Government take any care to see that some kind of selection is made with a view to ensuring that the members of the delegation have a basic knowledge of Indian culture?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Every possible precaution is taken in selecting the personnel of these delegations.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether Shri A. K. Gopalan who is now in Moscow and who is broadcasting anti-Indian speeches was sent there on any official or non-official delegation?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: No, Sir. We did not send him out.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the hon. Member can substantiate his statement that Shri A. K. Gopalan is making anti-Indian broadcasts? It is an accusation against another hon. Member of this House, and I want to know whether the hon. Member can substantiate his statement and whether the Chair will protect an absent hon. Member from such attacks?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That will be a matter for later consideration.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir.

Shri Nambiar: Please come out with your substantiation first.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Shall I allow a duel here on the floor of the House?

Sardar Hukam Singh: In the list supplied in answer to part (b) of the question, item No. 11 mentions of an Art Exhibition sent to China, Japan and Australia and item 12 refers to an Art Exhibition sent to U.S.A. Were any exhibits sent for display or were the exhibits sent were for sale?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: They were exhibitions only for exhibiting Indian pictures abroad and not for sale.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Against item No. 15 in the list an expenditure of Rs. 1,33,000 is shown to have been incurred. May I know the break-up of the amount? May I know whether the whole expenditure was incurred in connection with journeys or were there any other items of expenditure?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am very sorry, I have not got the break-up. If the hon. Member gives me notice, I shall supply the information.

Shri Damodara Menon: May I know Sir, whether the Cultural Delegation to China did make any constructive suggestions in their report?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: They submitted their report which has been considered by Government.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, whether the delegation of dancers sent abroad consisted of all types of dancers, like Kathakali, Bharata Natyam, Pahari, or only those persons who offered themselves were sent?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are we to go into all those details—into the different kinds of dances?

Shri Namdhari: Has the Government considered the desirability of sending a Delegation to Pakistan to promote goodwill?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This does not arise out of this question.

Shri K. K. Basu: May we know whether in selecting the artists expert advice is taken or the selection is made by Government officials?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Experts are certainly consulted.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Are the members of the delegation free to speak and write as they like in the countries which they visit?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): There is no ban on them, but there are certain considerations which we expect them to observe.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the fact that certain members belonging to the Cultural Delegation which returned from its visit to China are speaking and writing against friendly relations between India and China what steps do Government propose to take?

Several Hon. Members: Question.

Shri Nambiar: I can quote instances.

ASSAM TEA

*1030. **Shri Bell Ram Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what were the prices of various grades of Assam tea sold in Calcutta market in the years 1951 and 1952?

(b) What were the internal sale prices of various grades of Assam tea in the State of Assam in the same period?

(c) Is it a fact that the consumers of Assam tea have to pay a higher price for it in Assam?

(d) Do Government propose to enquire into the matter and take necessary steps?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 13.]

(b) In the absence of any auction facilities, only a very small proportion of poor quality teas are sold at the gardens in Assam in loose form for local consumption at varying prices; but no statistics of such sales are available.

(c) Government are not aware if consumers of Assam have to pay higher prices for local teas.

(d) The required information is being called for with a view to seeing what steps Government can appropriately take.

Shri Bell Ram Das: In view of the fact that the world price of tea is going down gradually, will it not be desirable to lower down the price of tea in India also?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no doubt, Sir, that it is desirable. The only trouble about it is how to achieve it. We have not got any price control over tea. Possibly we might have to

think of it in future, if the disparity between local producers' price and the selling price to Indian consumers is great.

Shri Bell Ram Das: Is the Government aware of the fact that highly adulterated tea is being sold in Assam?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have not got the information.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know, Sir, what is the gap between the cost of production and the sale price of Assam tea now?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The trouble about it is this. In the statement that we have furnished, we have given four categories of estates and five categories of tea. Which particular item on which the hon. member wants information, I am unable to find out.

GERM WARFARE IN KOREA

*1031. **Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the report of the International Scientific Commission which investigated into the charges of germ-warfare in Korea, has been brought to the notice of the Government of India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): A copy of the report has been recently received by the Government of India. Copies were distributed to all members of the United Nations, by the U.N. Secretariat, at the request of the Soviet Delegation to whom a copy of the report had been sent by the Secretariat of the 'World Peace Council'.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know, Sir, what are the conclusions of the International Scientific Commission?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Broadly speaking, the conclusions of this report are that the germ warfare was used in certain areas.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know, Sir, if the Government of India have ratified the Geneva Protocol against germ warfare?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: For the moment I cannot speak with precision, but we have always been in favour of ratification.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the fact that Government have ratified the Geneva protocol and in view of the fact that Government have acceded that germ warfare was used in Korea, will the Government of India raise the issue in the United Nations? What steps are taken in that respect?