

### Khadi for Uniform

\*420. **Shri D. C. Sharma** : Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Khadi is purchased for the uniforms and liveries for the employees under the Defence Ministry ; and

(b) if so, the quantity and value of Khadi purchased in 1953 and 1954 ?

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi)** : (a) and (b). Khadi is not being purchased for the uniforms of members of the Armed Forces, but the question of purchase of Khadi for the uniforms and liveries of civilian employees is under the consideration of Government.

**Shri D. C. Sharma** : May I know since when this matter came under consideration, how long it has been under consideration and how long it will continue to be under consideration ?

**Shri Tyagi** : I do not know when we started considering the matter, but the matter is actually under consideration. I have a paper in my hand where my sister Ministry, the Ministry which deals with Supply and Disposals, have intimated to me that the All India Khadi Industries Board has communicated to them that the maximum supply they can make in a year is to the tune of Rs. 28.7 lakhs—Rs. 28 lakhs worth of khadi alone, and not more. If the Armed Forces adopt the khadi uniform, probably the requirements will be much greater. And as some other Ministries are trying this khadi uniform, for instance in the Railways and P & T. I am afraid it will not be possible for the khadi industry to supply the full demand of the Armed Forces.

**Shri D. C. Sharma** : May I know for what category of employees khadi uniform will be supplied and for what category of employees khadi liveries will be supplied ?

**Shri Tyagi** : It is difficult for me to speak for the whole of the Government of India.

**Shri D. C. Sharma** : I am talking about the Defence Ministry, not about the whole of the Government of India.

**Shri Tyagi** : As regards the Defence Ministry, there is one uniform for all the Armed Forces ; those who come under the Armed Forces Regulations put on the uniform of three different colours, one for the Army, another for the Navy and a third for the Air Force. That is the uniform required for them. As regards Class IV employees employed in various offices as peons, etc., and other civilian

employees, because they are not armed personnel, their uniform can be of any colour or any variety of cloth.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास** : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि खादी बोर्ड २८ लाख रुपये से अधिक की खादी नहीं दे सकता। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि २८ लाख रुपये की खादी जो खादी बोर्ड दे सकता है उस के उपयोग करने में क्या दिक्कत है और अब तक क्यों उसे नहीं लिया गया है ?

**Shri Tyagi** : May I correct the figures I gave just now ? I find in the note it is said that Rs. 28 lakhs worth of order was placed with the Khadi Board last year, and they said their capacity to supply was Rs. 33.25 lakhs worth of khadi but they have not been able to supply even to the tune of Rs. 28 lakhs. against the order that was placed last year.

**Shri Chattopadhyaya** : May I know if it is a fact that the Chiefs of Staff of the Army, Navy and the Air Force recently advised Government that khadi is most unsuitable for uniforms for the various Forces ?

**Shri Tyagi** : Their opinion is that khadi will not give an absolutely uniform colour or quality of cloth, which is very essential for all the Armed Forces. It is very difficult for one soldier to put on one shade of cloth and for another to put on another shade. And the same thing applies to quality also. As khadi is produced in cottage industries everywhere by individuals, it is not possible to have the same quality for all the supplies of uniforms.

### Stock Verification

\*424. **Shri Gidwani** : Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the remarks of the Public Accounts Committee on page 5 of their Ninth Report with regard to para. 17 (iii) (a), Audit Report, 1952 about the recording of wrong certificate of cent per cent. stock verification in Engineer Park, Allahabad.

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the defaulting officers ; and

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid the recurrence of such cases in future ?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia)** : (a) Yes.

(b) No such certificate of 100 per cent verification was recorded by the Engineer Park, and as such no action is called for.