

**The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The amounts assessed and paid are:

	Assessed	Paid
1954-55	£ 76,500	£ 76,500 (This is provisional and the final figure has not yet been advised by the Commonwealth Relations Office)
1955-56	Nil.	Nil (from 1-4-55 onwards no agency fee is payable to the Commonwealth Relations Office)

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Since this work has been taken over from the Commonwealth Relations Office may I know whether there has been any increase in the staff of the High Commissioner's Office to do all these functions?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** I have not got exact information, but a slight increase is necessary.

#### Defence Minister's Foreign Tour

\*1122. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) which countries were visited by the Minister of Defence Organisation during his recent tour abroad; and

(b) whether he could ascertain which countries could give us best defence materials for our requirement on a suitable price?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) The U.K, France, West Germany, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia;

(b) Information regarding the type of Defence equipment which is available in these countries, was obtained and this information will be of value when equipment of similar type is either manufactured in India, or purchased from these countries.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether any commitments have been made with any of these countries which he visited, for the purchase of any particular material?

**Sardar Majithia:** No commitments were made.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether any decisions have been taken that it would be profitable for us to buy certain materials from particular countries?

**Sardar Majithia:** The question of decision does not arise, because we always check up what we want and, as the Minister of Defence Organisation has visited these countries and the installations, he will have an overall picture of what is produced there and therefore the Defence Ministry will benefit by it.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether these were the only countries where he wanted to assess whether we could get any material, or does he propose to visit other countries before we take any decisions?

**Sardar Majithia:** For the time being these were the countries which were producing material which we thought might be useful for us and they are well ahead in technical developments so far as those armaments are concerned.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know the number of experts—and the subjects in which they were experts—who accompanied the hon. Minister during the tour?

**Sardar Majithia:** Yes, certainly; it comprised of the Chief of the General Staff, the Master-General of Ordnance, the Additional Director General of Ordnance Factories, along with the Financial Adviser and the Defence Secretary.

**Shri B. D. Pant:** Which is the chief country on which we are dependent for our defence materials?

**Sardar Majithia:** At the moment it is U.K.

#### वैज्ञानिक और टैक्नीकल व्यक्तियों का राष्ट्रीय रजिस्टर

\*११२३. **श्री अमर सिंह डामर:** क्या प्राकृतिक संसाधन और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि राष्ट्रीय रजिस्टर में दर्ज वैज्ञानिक और टैक्नीकल व्यक्तियों के वर्गीकरण के काम में अब तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है, और इसके कब तक पूरे हो जाने की आशा है ?

प्राकृतिक संसाधन मंत्री (श्री के. जी. मालवीय) : आवश्यक जानकारी का विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है [बेसिक्वे परिशिष्ट ६, अनुबन्ध सं० ४५].