

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b). Due to the non-availability of accurate records, caused by un-authorised occupation by various land-owners, the Government of Madhya Bharat whose initial responsibility it is to make payments and raise debits against the Government of India, could not arrange correct assessment of compensation payable to individual land-owners and the payment thereof.

(c) Compensation payable from July, 1946 to 31st March, 1953, comes to Rs. 14,68,411/10/6, comprising—

(i) land rentals—Rs. 1,62,180/2/6.

(ii) compensation for trees etc.—Rs. 13,06,231/8/-.

(d) Demarcation of surplus land on site is being taken up and as soon as the exact areas are computed, action to restore the same, through the State Government, will be taken.

THEFT OF DEFENCE STORES

*1655. **Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a theft of Defence Stores of the value of about Rs. 15 lakhs from an Army Vehicle Depot;

(b) whether it is a fact that a Junior Commissioned Officer who was involved in the theft is now on long medical leave and is still enjoying all the privileges of Army life; and

(c) whether Government propose to lay a copy of the Report of the Board of Enquiry held in that case on the Table of the House?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) No, but certain irregularities resulting in a loss of about Rs. 1,86,000 were brought to notice in the year 1951.

(b) No, but the release of an officer who might be concerned in the irregularities has been held up pending completion of enquiries.

(c) A Board of officers was first constituted by the Commandant, C.O.D., Delhi, in 1951 and later a Staff enquiry was appointed in 1952 by Meerut sub-area to investigate into these irregularities. For want of adequate evidence, however, these enquiries remained inconclusive; this was due mostly to the release or discharge of personnel formerly employed in the said Vehicle Park. A further enquiry has recently been ordered in this case, which, I am afraid, would be adversely affected if the reports of the previous enquiries were made public at this stage.

SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

*1656. **Shri I. Eacharan:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned by Central Government for the welfare schemes of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1954-55 to the Madras State; and

(b) the main schemes on which the amount is proposed to be spent?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). A statement showing the details of the schemes for Madras State approved by the Government of India for 1954-55 is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 60.]

SOCIAL WELFARE BOARDS

*1657. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the names of the members of the State Social Welfare Boards of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar with their antecedents in the field of Social Welfare Work; and

(b) the basis on which the nomination of members of the Boards were made and the life of the Board?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) A statement giving the requisite information