

projects which are being surveyed. The quantum of the loan to be advanced or whether finally they have decided on the project on which a loan is to be advanced, is a matter to be decided later.

International Monetary Fund

*1235. { Shri H. G. Vaishnav;
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha }

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India are contemplating to approach the International Monetary Fund for obtaining a stand-by credit;

(b) if so, the extent of such credit; and

(c) the extent to which India is entitled to borrow under the Constitution of the Fund?

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). Under the Articles of Agreement India may purchase for rupees foreign currency to the equivalent of \$400 million but may not purchase more than the equivalent of \$100 million in any period of twelve months. This source is available to us as a stand-by against an emergency.

Shri H. G. Vaishnav: May I know how much India has drawn on her foreign securities since the beginning of 1956?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: This does not relate to foreign securities. The question relates to what we can draw from the I.M.F. We have drawn nothing.

Shri H. G. Vaishnav: May I know what was the total provision made for withdrawals from sterling balances for the Second Five Year Plan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Again, it does not relate to the question. If the Chair wants me to answer, I shall answer. The provision, according to the Plan, was that we could draw about Rs. 200 crores.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Is it not a fact that we purchased some currency in the year 1949; and, if so, whether that has been again deposited with the I.M.F.?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We did make a purchase in the past and we have paid back what we purchased.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The hon. Finance Minister said we can purchase some currency. May I know whether Government have made up their mind to purchase currency from the I.M.F. and, if so, at what rate of interest?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Government have not made up their mind.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The second part of my question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: It arises because some rate of interest is fixed by the I.M.F. at which it advances currency to different countries.

Mr. Speaker: If the rate of interest is fixed, then, there is no question of bargaining and if there is any bargaining there is no question of fixed rate of interest.

Military Lands and Cantonments Department

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*1238. { Shri Ramananda Das;
Dr. Satyawadi }

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state :

(a) when the services of the Officers in the Military Lands and Cantonments Department were centralised;

(b) whether these posts carry the benefit of Provident Fund;

(c) whether the Officers in the Military Lands and Cantonments Department are allowed pensions at the time of retirement and also provident fund and gratuity at the same time;

(d) whether the contributions to wards, provident fund, gratuity and pensions are made by Government or the Cantonment Boards; and

(e) the reasons why the Cantonment Fund Servants are not given these benefits?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) On 8th September, 1948.

(b) They do not carry the benefit of Contributory Provident Fund; but the officers are allowed to subscribe to the General Provident Fund at their option.

(c) They get from Government pensions and death-cum-retirement gratuity under the liberalized pension rules. In case any of them have subscribed to the General Provident Fund, they get back, at the time of retirement, their own accumulations in the Fund together with interest thereon.

(d) The Cantonment Boards pay to Government their contributions towards pension and death-cum-gratuity for the period for which each officer serves as Cantonment Executive Officer under them.

As the posts do not carry the benefit of Contributory Provident Fund, there is no question of any contributions by Government or Cantonment Boards towards their Provident Fund account.

(e) The posts in the Military Lands and Cantonments Service have been sanctioned on pensionary terms, while the Cantonment Fund posts have been sanctioned on Contributory Provident Fund terms. These are alternative terms and the question of any employees getting both those terms does not arise.

Army Officer's Behaviour

*1239. **Shri Kamath** : Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 110 on the 16th November, 1956 regarding behaviour of an Army Officer and state what action has been taken by the police authorities in the matter?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (**Shri Datar**) : The proceedings against the officer have been dropped for want of sufficient evidence.

Shri Kamath : So far as I can recollect, the Minister for Defence Organisation, on the last occasion, said that the matter was being investigated by the Police. May I know if, after all this protracted enquiry by the military authorities first and then by the Police, it was not possible to get any evidence for putting up the matter in court?

Shri Datar : Not that it was not possible to get any evidence, but conflicting evidence was recorded.

Shri Kamath : If I remember right, last time the Minister for Defence Organisation said that the conflict was between the version of the railway authorities and the version of the officer concerned himself. Am I to understand that there is a new conflict now that has arisen because of which they could not put up the case in court?

Shri Datar : If the hon. Member will kindly recollect, the answer given by **Shri Tyagi** was that there was a conflict between the statement received from the railway authorities and the statement received from the officer concerned. Then this matter was considered by the Railway Police and they came to the conclusion that there was not sufficient material for founding the charge.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether any departmental enquiry is being made into this incident?

Shri Datar : When the enquiry was held by the Railway Police themselves and when no material was found, I am afraid there is no material even for a departmental enquiry.

Shri Kamath : Will the hon. Minister be good enough to tell us the gist of the version given by the officer and the gist of the version given by the railway authorities?

Shri Datar : The officer's contention was that he did not use rude words, nor did he hold the rifle at the particular person, namely, the complainant. The versions we got were rather inconsistent. Therefore, it was found that even if something was done, it would not end in either conviction or anything else. That is why the matter had to be dropped.

Shri Kamath : Was more reliance placed on the officer's version as against the version of the Railway authorities?

Shri Datar : Reliance was based on a proper assessment of the evidence before the officers.

Shri Kamath : My question was, as between the version of the officer concerned, the accused—not in the regular sense but as the person who is suspected of having committed an offence—and the version of the Railway authorities—officers on the spot like the Station Master and others—on whose evidence was reliance placed before deciding that there was no evidence good enough to go before the court?

Shri Datar : There was no question of placing any reliance. Let me explain the matter. Evidence was recorded and investigation was completed and the Railway Police came to the conclusion that there was no sufficient material for proceeding against the officer.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi : May I know whether there were any missing links in the evidence and how the links were missing and also whether any departmental action was taken against the officer?

Shri Datar : So far as the latter part is concerned, I have already answered that there may not be sufficient material for a departmental enquiry. So far as the earlier portion is concerned, it will depend upon the reliability of this version or the other. When there was a lot of inconsistency, Government thought that nothing could be done in the matter.

दिल्ली राज्य-विधान सभा को
दिख गये आश्वासन

*१२४५. श्री-मन्त्र प्रजापति : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली राज्य विधान-सभा की सिफारिशों पर दिये गये आश्वासनों के