

mittees, one headed by the Deputy Law Minister and the other by the Cabinet Secretary were appointed by Government in February 1959 and May 1960 respectively to investigate two cases of purchase of Defence stores.

(b) They are expected to submit their reports shortly.

(c) In the case of the first Committee, the delay has occurred due to the temporary illness of the Chairman, his pre-occupations, as well as of a member of the Committee with some other work. As regards the second Committee, it cannot be said that there has been any delay, so far.

Purchase of Defence Stores

1438. **Shri Rajeshwar Patel:**
Shri Morarka:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) what Committees, appointed to investigate the various irregularities concerning the purchase of defence stores during the last three years have submitted their reports;

(b) when Government is likely to take its decision on the recommendations made in these reports; and

(c) the reasons for delay in taking decisions?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) to (c). Only two Committees have been appointed by Government during the last three years to investigate the cases of purchase of Defence Stores and their recommendations are still awaited.

By-product Plants in Rourkela

1439. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas condensation and By-products Recovery plant at Rourkela has been completed;

(b) when it will be commissioned;

(c) the amount spent over this plant;

(d) what by-products will be produced and how much; and

(e) how far they meet the country's requirements?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The By-Product plant has been nearly completed.

(b) The completed section: have been commissioned.

(c) About Rs. 7 crores.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 8].

(e) The by-products produced will meet the country's requirement to a fair extent.

Rest Houses for Army Personnel

1440. **Shri Padam Dev:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places having rest houses for the use of army personnel with their families during the period of their leave; and

(b) the arrangements at these rest houses and the facilities available therein for the army personnel?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) There are no Rest Houses or Holiday Homes run by the Army authorities. However, the Ratan Tata Officers' Holiday Home at Ootacamund is available for officers of the Defence Services. This Home was placed at the disposal of the Government by the Tatas during the last World War. Civilians are also admitted if accommodation is available.

(b) A retired officer of the Armed Forces is in charge of the Home mentioned above and facilities like messing, sports, recreation, transport and