

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Secretary-General has submitted his proposal in a recent report prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2717 (XXV), which requested him to make recommendations on, *inter alia*, the most appropriate means to strengthen further the capacity of the United Nations relating to natural disasters, including organisational arrangement for the permanent office in the United Nations Secretariat responsible for the co ordination of action relating to natural disasters, epidemics, famines and similar emergency situations. India supported that resolution. The Secretary-General's present proposal, which will come up for detailed discussion at the next session of the General Assembly, is presently under the Government's consideration.

Discontentment amongst the Staff of
Director General of Ordnance
Factories over Transfer of
Equipment Unit to
Kanpur

4528. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious discontentment prevails amongst the staff of Director-General, Ordnance Factories regarding the transfer of Equipment Unit to Kanpur ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government ; and

(c) whether this move is likely to cost the Government more ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Protests and objections have been received by the Government from Employees' Association of the Director General Ordnance Factories Headquarters Office.

(b) Shifting is being done on voluntary basis and those who do not move will not be retrenched but it is proposed to retain them on supernumerary basis at Calcutta.

(c) Expenditure commensurate with the necessity to move has been/is to be incurred.

Construction of Government Quarters in
Manipur

4529. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Manipur is considering the construction of new Government quarters in view of the increasing need for accommodation of Government officials ;

(b) the number of houses proposed for construction and the sites chosen ;

(c) whether particular areas in Imphal have been chosen for development as residential colonies ; and

(d) if so, what are those ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Provision for Personal Orderlies to Higher
Officers of Defence Services

4530. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether higher officers in Defence Services are provided with personal Orderlies ;

(b) whether Government are aware that such personal Orderlies have to work as cooks and domestic servants ; and

(c) if so, whether Government intend to put a stop to such practice ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Orderlies are provided to Commissioned and Junior Commissioned Officers in war establishments and to some extent in peace establishments.

(b) Officers are not authorised to utilize orderlies as cooks and personal servants.