

(c) Out of 105 factories which were in operation in November 1957, 92 paid at Rs. 1/7/- per maund for the cane delivered at the gate of the factory and Rs. 1/5/- for cane delivered at outstation rail centres. Out of the remaining 13 factories which are all in Bombay State, 8 paid at the rate of Rs. 1/11/- per maund of cane. 3 co-operative factories made advance payments to their grower-members and the exact price to be paid will be decided after the crushing season is over. 2 factories did not purchase any cane during the period from outside growers and crushed their own farm cane.

(d) The minimum price fixed by Government for cane delivered at outstation rail centres is Rs. 1/5/- per maund as against Rs. 1/7/- per maund fixed for delivery at the gate of the factory. A rebate of annas 2 per maund is allowed to meet cost of transport from outstation centres to factory. Most of the factories in Bombay State own sugarcane farms and on the average they purchase only about 20 per cent of their requirements from outside growers. The State Government has arranged, in consultation with the sugar factories concerned and with the approval of the Central Government that the factories in that State should pay for cane purchased by them from outside growers at a uniform increased rate of Rs. 1/11/- (or Rs. 46 per ton) per maund subject to the condition that these factories would not be called upon to pay any extra price as may be found due under the formula prescribed by the Central Government for linking price of cane with that of sugar.

#### Quarters for P. & T. Employees at Nangal Dam

1764. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct quarters for the Post and Telegraph employees at Nangal Dam in Punjab; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No.

(b) Out of total strength of P. & T. employees of 48, 3 Sub-Postmasters and one Incharge Telegraph Office have residential quarters attached to their respective offices.

For the remaining 44 members of staff, 34 units of quarters have been allotted by the Irrigation Department of the Punjab P.W.D. to individual officials of the P. & T. Department on rent.

There appears to be no necessity of constructing departmental quarters at present.

12 hrs.

#### MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

##### FIRING AT RAICHUR RAILWAY STATION

Mr. Speaker: I have received notices of an adjournment motion. Hon. Members seem to be agitated over the firing . . . .

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated-Anglo-Indians): Certainly.

Mr. Speaker: . . . . by armed forces on some persons in the Raichur railway station, injuring 14 and odd people. They have been given in the names of a number of hon. Members. Has the hon. Minister anything to say on this matter?

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): The matter of firing is very important. We were hearing of it so far as the Pakistani army was concerned.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Now even in our own country, firing is taking place.

Mr. Speaker: Why is the hon. Member impatient? Let me come to it later whether the firing ought to be noticed now or not. Let us dispose of one firing.

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding this incident, about which we are very sorry, the facts are that one NCO fired three rounds at that station, as a result of which there were certain injuries. Now, we still do not know about the exact nature of the injuries. Admittedly, 14 persons were injured, but whether all of them were injured, as a result of these three bullets or some of them were injured by bullets and others in the pandemonium which took place later on—they received certain other injuries as a result of rushing about—we still do not know. But the fact is that it was only one NCO who was involved. It is not a whole platoon. This platoon did not belong to the Army; it is a platoon of the Ministry of Defence Security Corps (*interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** He is saying that, technically, it does not belong to the Army.

**Sardar Majithia:** It is the Ministry of Defence Security Corps. We are not getting away from the responsibility in any case. But the fact is that it is only one NCO who was involved in this and not the whole lot of them. Therefore, there is no mutiny or anything of that type.

A Court of Inquiry is sitting, with which the Ministry of Railways is associated. At this stage, I should not like to say anything more, because that might influence the Court of Inquiry.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram):** Is it a public inquiry? Everyday incidents are happening. In Sagar District, the same sort of story was repeated about a fortnight ago. The Defence Minister had said here that nothing had happened there. Later it was criticised in the press and by the public.

**Sardar Majithia:** If I may be permitted to proceed . . .

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Not he, but the Defence Minister.

**Sardar Majithia:** The Court of Inquiry is sitting and they are taking evidence and all that. They will submit a report. I can only say this much, that the severest action will be taken against the person who has been found to have done this act of indiscretion. Beyond this, I should not like to go at the moment.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Is the man who fired under arrest or not?

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Must be.

**Sardar Majithia:** Yes, that man was disarmed and he is there in custody.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-East):** What is the composition of the Court of Inquiry?

**Shri Sonavane (Sholapur-Reserved-Sch. Castes):** May I ask a question?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** What does he want?

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** I want to know whether the report of the Court of Inquiry will be made available to the House.

**Sardar Majithia:** As soon as the report is received by the Ministry, we will go through it and make a detailed statement to the House, as soon as we possibly can.

**Shri Vajpayee (Balrampur):** May I know if the person concerned was drunk?

**Mr. Speaker:** Why does the hon. Member in the guise of a question go to extenuating circumstances?

**Shri Vajpayee:** I am seeking information.

**Sardar Majithia:** It is most unfair to start on presumptions. The Court of Inquiry is sitting. They will go into all the facts and details of the evidence that will come before them and come to certain conclusions and recommendations. I would only ask the House to bear with me and have

a little patience till we get the report. Then we will certainly report to the House.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram):** We are very happy to hear from the Minister that all of them were not involved, but only one NCO was involved. I wish to make it quite clear that nobody in the House is happy over the incident. As far as our armed forces are concerned, they were maintaining very commendable discipline in their public life.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is it that he wants to ask?

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** We have given notice of the adjournment motion so that the whole cause of the entire incident may be gone into by the Court of Inquiry and some action taken to eliminate the cause of this trouble so that the whole chapter may be deleted from our own memory.

**Shri Sonavane rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** He has not taken the trouble to table an adjournment motion.

**Shri Sonavane:** Why should an adjournment motion be tabled?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member need not take it seriously. As soon as anybody looked into this morning's papers, on the front page he would have found the news of this incident. The hon. Member comes from Bombay. He must be near Raichur. Why should I allow those hon. Members who did not get agitated and came here at the earliest opportunity, to ask questions? I have heard sufficiently—from four hon. Members and also the Deputy Defence Minister.

**Shri Sonavane:** Have those who have not tabled adjournment motions no chance to ask questions?

**Mr. Speaker:** Later on. He did not even ask questions separately. Nobody is happy over what has happened. Amongst so many people in the

Army or regular or other forces, if one or two young men commit some indiscretion, nobody is happy. An investigation is going on. The hon. Minister has said that after the report is received, they will look into it and take necessary action and also submit a detailed statement to the House.

**Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly):** What is the composition of the Court of Inquiry?

**Mr. Speaker:** Let us see. It is a departmental inquiry. What do we know about the details? It may be X Y Z in the Army.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** It is a Court of Inquiry.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it a military one?

**Sardar Majithia:** May I reiterate that it is not the Army, but it is a different organisation? It is the Ministry of Defence Security Corps. Please do not mix up the Army with it.

This is about an incident. They will go into it.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Who are the members?

**Sardar Majithia:** This Court of Inquiry is going into the facts of this incident (*interruptions.*)

**An Hon. Member:** Under what law?

**Mr. Speaker:** Why should hon. Members get excited? There is no wonder that one young man got excited.

**Sardar Majithia:** The personnel consists of three military officers, and co-opted a representative of the Ministry of Railways who is associated with this for going into this.

**Mr. Speaker:** In view of the statement made by the hon. Minister, I am not called upon to give my consent to the adjournment motion.