

Compensation to be paid to Indian Repatriates from Burma

*120. Shri Ramachandra Veerappa:
 Shri M. Rampure:
 Shri Ibrahim Sulaiman Salt:
 Shri N. K. Sanghi:
 Shri Y. Prasad:
 Shri Maddi Sudarsanam:
 Shri Seshiyam:
 Shri K. Ambahgan:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to ask the Government of Burma to pay compensation to the Indian repatriates in the form of rice;

(b) if so, when the final decision is likely to be taken; and

(c) the extent to which it will ease the food position?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) The question of payment of compensation by the Government of Burma for assets of Indian repatriates is still under discussion between the two Governments. There is, however, no proposal to ask for compensation in the form of rice. We are already buying all the rice Burma can spare.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Installation of Medium Wave Transmitters

*121. Shri Chandrika Prasad:
 Shri K. M. Madhakar:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the installation of 100 kilowatt power medium wave transmitters in Gorakhpur, Jodhpur, Kotdwara and Mathura;

(b) whether it is a fact that the special release of foreign exchange for the above transmitters was secured for the border coverage of strategic areas in Northern India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the 100 kilowatt power medium wave transmitter which was to be installed

in Gorakhpur is now being sent to Trichur; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) Sites for the transmitters at three locations namely, Gorakhpur, Jodhpur and Najibabad for Kumaon Garhwal Region, have been finalised. Equipments for these projects are already on order and are expected to be received shortly. There is no proposal to instal a high power medium wave transmitter at Mathura. However, a new Radio Station, with a low power transmitter has already been commissioned at Mathura on January 29, 1967.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

National Defence Fund

*122. Shri E. S. Vidyarthi:
 Shri S. E. Damani:
 Dr. Ranen Sen:
 Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
 Shri Dhuleshwar Moens:
 Shri Heerji Bhat:
 Shri K. Paradhani:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) The total amount of gold and cash so far received for the National Defence Fund, State-wise;

(b) The amount spent so far for the defence of the country; and

(c) How the remaining amount is likely to be spent?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-420/67].

(b) A sum of Rs. 27.27 crores has so far been spent on the purchase of Defence equipment.