

AGRICULTURAL LAND TAKEN ON RENT BY DGBR "DEEPAK PROJECT"

1095. SHRI C. L. VARMA:

SHRIMATI SATYAVATI DANG:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate General of Border Roads "Deepak Project" has taken on rent some agricultural land from agriculturists in Baragaon, Shian, Kangal Panchayats and Kumarsain for housing their staff;

(b) if so, when the land was taken on rent; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Collector of the district had assessed the rent long ago but "Deepak Project" authorities are delaying payment ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes. Agricultural land at Baragaon and Banhar has been taken on rent for accommodation of Border Roads personnel. No land has been hired so far at Shian, Kangal and Kumarsain.

(b) The dates on which land was taken on rent are as follows:

Land at Baragaon—15th November, 1966.

Land at Banhar—Between April and December, 1967.

(c) Final assessment of rent was received from the revenue authorities only in respect of land at Baragaon. Payment of rent for the lands at Baragaon has been arranged with effect from 15th November, 1966, in consultation with the accounts authorities. In respect of the lands at Banhar, payment of rent will be made on receipt of final assessment by the civil authorities.

MOBILISING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES THROUGH TAXATION

1096. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that serious differences have arisen on the question of mobilising additional resources through taxation.

(b) whether as a result of these differences decision on the size of the Fourth Plan is being delayed; and

(c) if so, what are the precise points of differences and when they are likely to be resolved?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

FORMATION OF ASSAM RADIO AND TV AGENCY

1097. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Asian Broadcasting Union at a meeting held recently at Delhi considered the question of formation of Assam Radio and TV News Agency for giving wider coverage of events in Assam regions; and

(b) if so, what were the decisions taken at the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) and (b) A proposal to appoint a committee to consider the advisability of setting up and working out details of an Asian (not Assam) Radio and TV News Agency was considered by the Asian Broadcasting Union Conference held at New Delhi in November, 1968. The proposal was not accepted and was dropped.

INDO-CEYLON TALKS ON INDIAN SETTLERS

1098. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indo-Ceylonese official level talks was held in the last week of November, 1968 to decide the implementation of 1964 Agreement concerning Indian settlers in the Island; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the talks?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The Prime Ministers noted that matters pertaining to the implementation of the Agreement have been satisfactorily dealt with by the Joint Committee in Colombo and through discussions among the officials and expressed their determination to continue to implement the Agreement in a spirit of mutual cooperation and goodwill as hitherto.

(ii) The Ceylon Government agreed to expedite the grant of Ceylon citizenship to persons whose applications were pending. The High Commission of India in Ceylon will also continue to grant Indian citizenship in respect of pending applications.