

the verdict given by a High Court Judge, he won't be satisfied by what I say.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, is it a fact that in the Court of Enquiry, evidence of the employers and the Coalminers was taken and the argument heard after the trade union had concluded their evidence and arguments before the Commission?

SHRI ABID ALI: Nothing of the kind was mentioned before the Enquiry Committee's report came out, and this is coming out one year after the report is published.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, as to why then at the particular Conference on the 29th of January, the question of Chinakuri Court of Enquiry was not discussed amongst the delegates although it was included as one of the four items in the agenda circulated for the Conference?

SHRI ABID ALI: The members of the organisation, to which the hon. Member belongs, walked out of the Conference. Therefore, certainly he has no information of what happened after they walked away. I may add that of those who walked away, one delegate submitted his claim for T.A. and D.A.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am not concerned with T.A. and D.A.. Is it a fact, Sir, that after the walk-out, Mr Deven Sen, M.L.A., General Secretary of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, and Shri Maheswar Deo, General Secretary of the Mazdoor Panchayat, again of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, together with the representatives of the Coalminers' Federation, Mr. Kalyan Shanker Roy and Mr. Vittal Rao, M.P., General Secretary, submitted a joint memorandum pointing out the falsehood and absurdity of these enquiries and whether that particular memorandum has been considered by the Government? He is trying to raise a red herring over it.

SHRI ABID ALI: Sir, the Conference held at Dhanbad on 29th January had this item on the agenda. It was placed there and unanimously approved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, only one question more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No more.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They have killed so many people.

OFFICE AND RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS IN THE CAPITAL

*374. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of the existing shortage of office accommodation and residential accommodation for Government servants in the capital;

(b) the extent to which the shortage is being met either by hire or otherwise;

(c) the total annual rent being paid by Government on account of office accommodation; and

(d) how far Government's building programme is expected to meet the shortage by the end of the Second Five Year Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) The shortage in respect of accommodation controlled by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply is as follows:—

Office accommodation—5·02 lakh sq. ft.

Residential accommodation—39,000 units.

(b) and (d) Office :

Accommodation to the extent of 4·32 lakhs sq. ft. is under construction, and will be available during the current plan period. Accommodation

to the extent of 1.30 lakhs sq. ft. is proposed to be taken on hire immediately. All this accommodation will go to meet the current shortage and also partly to meet the shortage occasioned by the demolition of some temporary hutments which have outlived their life.

Residential:

13,712 residential units are under construction and will be available during the currency of the 2nd Plan.

(c) Rs. 14,26,878 per annum.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, to what extent this shortage of residential accommodation has been met and it likely to be met?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: It is given in the answer. I have said that there is a shortage of 39,000 units out of which 13,712 are under construction.

SHRI B. SHIVA RAO: May I know, Sir, whether my hon. friend is aware of the exorbitant rent paid by low income groups of Government servants in Delhi, and whether the Government have any plan to meet the acute shortage in housing accommodation?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Delhi, it is well known, suffers considerably from inadequately supply of accommodation and the rents are very high. It is because of this that we have taken in hand all possible constructions, possible under the circumstances.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, what is the future of the Constitution House which has already outlived its life?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I could not follow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the future of the Constitution House which has already outlived its life? It is still there.

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I would like to say that the Constitution House has almost outlived its life. There is a programme to pull it down and put up another hostel elsewhere. But it is the policy of the Government not to pull down this Constitution House before a new structure comes up and thereby cause unnecessary inconvenience to the persons who are using the Constitution House. That is why we are delaying the matter.

Sir, I may add that in respect of the general residential accommodation position in Delhi, it is only in Delhi that Government has undertaken the responsibility to provide accommodation to all the Government servants on this scale. Nowhere in the world, except perhaps Washington and Canberra, has any Government accepted such a huge responsibility. It will take some time before we are in a position to satisfy all the demand.

Sir, with regard to the rent aspect, which Mr. Shiva Rao referred to, I would like to say that there is a special rent allowance which is paid to Government servants to enable them to tide over the difficulties under which they are suffering.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, the reason why the Government is not giving topmost priority to construction of residential accommodation for the low-income group government employees, especially in view of the extreme shortage of houses for them?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: In fact, the majority of the houses that are being built in Delhi, are intended to cater to the lower categories of employees.

FIRING BY PAKISTANI TROOPS ON ASSAM BORDER

*375. **SHRI S. PANIGRAHI:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the security of Assam border has been threatened by the heavy firing by the Pakistani troops recently;