

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Are there any figures available already for the Part B States?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I should like to have notice so far as the present figures are concerned.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: According to the present strength of the pool, what is the number?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: We have taken mostly what the States could give because our requirements have increased.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: This question is different from what I had asked. Is it not a fact that 25 per cent, of the cadre of almost each of the Part A States constitutes the cadre for the Central pool? Is not the same policy being followed or is it that there is a revised scheme about this? The Part B States have already been sanctioned a cadre and is 25 per cent, of that cadre going to be fixed for the Central pool?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: My hon. friend has not understood the position correctly at all. What we have at present done is to fix, on an *ad hoc* basis, the number of persons or officers to be taken from the various States. Now the proposal under consideration is to have, for the Central pool, about two-fifths of the number of senior posts in each of the various States and that would constitute the strength of the cadre.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Why has it not been possible to allow due share to Part B States so far?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: It has been our policy to allot the due share to the Part B States. The hon. Member will know that the process of integration went on for some years and it is now in the last stages. Full justice will be done to the Part B States now.

SYNTHETIC RICE PLANT

*71. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state the estimated cost of a plant capable of manufacturing one ton of synthetic rice per day?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): Rs. 1,47,000 approximately.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Has the Government placed any order for a plant of this kind, Sir?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The order is being placed.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it a fact, Sir, that the Director of the Institute was deputed to the United Kingdom and Europe to study the technical problems connected with the large scale production of synthetic rice and, in particular, the nature of the equipment required? Did he go and on return submit a report on the nature of equipment required and other technical details for the setting up of a large scale plant?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Sir, the Director of the Central Food Research Institute had gone to Europe on our instructions to examine all possibilities with regard to the production of synthetic rice and to study the different machines from the point of view of our raw materials and submitted a report on the basis of which we have agreed now to go in for a pilot-scale plant. All efforts are being made to expedite that so that by the end of this year we may get the pilot-scale plant and the scheme going.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: From the nature of the order placed, it is clear that it is only for a pilot plant and that it would still be in an experimental stage. This experiment has been going on now for the last four or five years and many exhibitions have sold synthetic rice for eating. Australia and Japan have produced synthetic rice on a mass scale. Is it not time that we also should begin production on a mass scale?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Mass scale production has got to be inter-related only to the eating habits of the people. When we know that people will accept this as food, then alone will it be advisable to go in for mass production.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: What is the production of synthetic rice at present?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Zero.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Which country invented this machine first?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: So far as we know

SHRI GULSHER AHMED: May I know how many times this question has been raised before this House and, secondly, is it the case now that we have not got sufficient rice in this country that people should worry so much about this synthetic rice?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I do not know the specific number of times the question has been put. I would require notice to answer that question but it is a fact that many times has this question been put and many times have I answered the questions, specifically mentioning the fact that this question of producing synthetic rice is not so much related" to the question of scarcity of food.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN: Is it a fact that representations were made to the Minister that synthetic rice plant is available in India, that the machinery is available and that we need not go to foreign countries, and, if so, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister went through it and studied it thoroughly and before ordering abroad came to the conclusion that the machine was not available in this country.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Information was given to us and the offer was made informally to us, but it was not considered advisable to accept the offer.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Is the hon. Minister aware that there is a rice called 'bamboo rice'?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I take the information from the hon. Member.

SHRI B. GUPTA: What is the amount that has been spent for carrying on this synthetic rice research?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I will require notice to answer that question. Not much money has been spent on this experiment.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: What is the nutritive value of this synthetic rice compared to the natural rice?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: According to the experts, the nutritive value of this rice will be at least as good as that of natural rice.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know. Sir, if there is any difference between the Indian and Japanese methods of synthetic rice production, and if there is any, which of the two is superior?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I am not aware of it.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Why don't you give up this synthetic rice business altogether and save the time of Parliament and the people engaged on its production as well as the money of the Government?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: We don't propose to do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion for action.

NEW IDEAS AND INVENTIONS FOR THE MILITARY FROM PRIVATE SOURCES

*72. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new ideas and inventions received during the last three years at the Army Headquarters