

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU):

(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

WHEAT LOAN FROM THE U.S.A.

*410. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of wheat loan received so far by India from the Government of the United States of America in pursuance of the Loan Agreement dated January 15, 1951; and

(b) what amount of this loan was to be adjusted towards the share of contribution of the Government of the United States of America to the community projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): (a) \$189.66 million.

(b) Nil.

SETTLEMENT OF BURMA'S DEBT TO INDIA

*411. SHRI SARDAR SINGH: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any official delegation was sent to Rangoon recently to negotiate the settlement of Burma's debt to India; and

(b) if so, what progress has been achieved in the negotiations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not in the public interest to disclose the progress of the negotiations at this stage.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE FOR THE SMALL SAVINGS SCHEME

*412. LT.-COL. J. S. MANN: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Women's Committee has recently been constituted to encourage the Small Savings Scheme; and

(b) if so, when it was constituted and what is the progress so far achieved by it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI A. C. GUHA): (a) and (b). A non-official Central Advisory Committee for Women's Savings Campaign has been constituted recently in order to assist in guiding and co-ordinating the Small Savings Movement and Advising Government and the various women's and other social organisations in the country. The campaign to intensify collection under the aegis of this Committee started only in October last and it is too early to assess its results.

(Postponed from the 17 December, 1953).

INTEREST CHARGED ON LOANS GRANTED FOR DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION

*371. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state the reasons for charging lower rate of interest, viz., 4½ per cent., on loans sanctioned to the Government of Bihar and West Bengal for the Damodar Valley Corporation when the World Bank loan for this project carries a higher rate of interest viz., 4-7/8 per cent.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): The rate of interest on loans sanctioned to the Governments of West Bengal and Bihar to cover rupee expenditure on the project varies from time to time. The rate to be charged on loans sanctioned to the Governments of West Bengal and Bihar to cover the dollar part of the expenditure met from World Bank loans has not yet been finally determined.

EXISTENCE OF A SLAUGHTER HOUSE IN LUCKNOW

239. PANDIT S. DUBE: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation was received for removing the existing slaughter house in the Lucknow Cantonment area situated near the Northern Railway line; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Lucknow Cantonment Board resolved in March 1950 to remove the slaughter house from its present site on hygienic and sanitary grounds and referred the matter to the Central Government for sanction; and if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA):

(a) Yes.

(b) In March 1950 the Cantonment Board resolved to shift the slaughter house but they dropped the matter on re-consideration. The matter was not referred to the Government of India by the Cantonment Board.

TRAINING OF INDIANS BY FOREIGN EXPERTS

240. SHRI B. RATH: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian personnel who have been trained up by the foreign experts whose services were obtained by Government under the various technical aid schemes since the commencement of the Five Year Plan; and

(b) how many of these foreign experts are still in India and for how long they will stay on?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): (a) The services of most of these experts are obtained to advice on various problems connected with India's development projects and not specifically to train Indian personnel; but an Indian understudy is usually appointed who may be able to take

over the work when the expert goes back.

(b) 148. The periods of their assignments usually range from 3 months to one year.

GRANTS FOR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

241. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the cultural activities in each State for the development of which grants were made by the Central Government in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53; and

(b) what is the basis on which these grants are made?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, Annexure No. 137.]

(b) Each application for grant from the institution is considered on its own merits. A statement of general conditions for grants to all-India institutions or societies in the educational, cultural and allied fields is also placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, Annexure No. 138.]

CENTRAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES UNDER THE FIVE YEAR PLAN

242. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to my unstarred question No. 146 asked on the 13th May 1953, and State:

(a) how much of the "Central Assistance" of Rs. 197 crores to the States relates to (i) loans and (ii) grants for schemes in the first Five Year Plan;