

DR. R. B. GOUR: Only one question more, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only two minutes more and I have called the next question

#### UTILISATION OF STERLING BALANCES

\*89. SHRI V. K. DIJAGE: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government utilized less than half of the sterling releases in 1951-52 and did not at all draw upon the scheduled quota in 1952-53; if so, why?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): It is true that the amount of sterling transferred from blocked account for current use was £15 million in 1951-52 (July-June) and that no transfers were made in 1952-53. Owing to improvement in our external payments position, it was not found necessary to draw on the blocked balances to the extent stipulated in the Financial Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the United Kingdom.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Is it a fact that in 1947 the agreement that we reached with the British Government was to the effect that we would draw about £35 million every year from 1951 onwards, and then, is it also not a fact that the amount that we are going to draw is not to meet the balance of payments but to meet the needs of our development programme? If that is so, how does the hon. Minister justify the statement that because the balance of payments position was favourable; we did not draw any amount? Does it mean that we had no development programme and so did not draw any amount?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Perhaps there is confusion in the mind of the hon. Member. Whatever has to be imported for our development programme also is included in the balance of pay-

ments and therefore what I have stated is absolutely correct.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Does the hon. Minister mean that neither the State Government nor the Central Government need any more money for their development programmes?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: This complicated mechanism has to be understood. It is a question of the balance of payments and if the balance of payment is not favourable to us, and we want to withdraw, then we withdraw. I say again that, if the balance of payments is favourable, more funds come really to be accumulated in the current fund and from that we can draw whenever necessary. It is not as if anything lapses. We can draw whenever we want, whenever the balance of payments is unfavourable.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Whatever amount is left with the United Kingdom Government, does that Government pay us interest on it?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: We are allowed interest. Previously we used to get only a very small percentage, .08. Now, we are getting more interest; perhaps it is about 1.75 per cent or 2 per cent. I am not sure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### REHABILITATION OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL ON LNAD

\*74. SHRI RAHMATH-ULLAH: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government allot land to ex-service men and ex-service women to enable them to resettle on land;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the basis on which, and what are the conditions under which, land is allotted to the ex-service personnel;

(c) whether there are any applications from the ex-service personnel for allotment of land still pending with Government; if so, what is the number of such applications (State-wise); and

(d) what is the total acreage of land (State-wise) allotted to the ex-service personnel so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): (a) Yes.

(b) The basis on and conditions under which land is allotted to ex-service personnel are as follows:—

- (i) should have served in World War II and thereafter;
- (ii) should possess agricultural experience;
- (iii) should be landless agriculturist or own uneconomic holding of less than 5 acres;
- (iv) should bear military character not less than 'Good';
- (v) should contribute towards the colony expenditure, the sum specified by the Central Government;
- (vi) should settle on land permanently and become a member of the colony co-operative society, when formed;
- (vii) should abide by the rules and regulations of the colony;
- (viii) shall have no right to mortgage, sell or otherwise transfer the land.

(c) Yes. Information has been called for from the States concerned.

(d) The total acreage of land allotted to ex-service personnel so far is as follows:—

Name of State	Acreage of land allotted
Punjab	4,590
Uttar Pradesh	14,405

Name of State	Acreage of land allotted
Rajasthan	11,467
Bhopal	1,800
Madhya Bharat	200
Orissa	800
Hyderabad	447
Madras	23,341
Coorg	8,000
Mysore	340
Travancore-Cochin	600

#### TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS OF DISPLACED GOVERNMENT SERVANTS FROM PAKISTAN

\*82. SHRI RAHMATH-ULLAH: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state—

(a) whether the late Sardar Patel gave an assurance on the floor of the Parliament on the 10th April 1950 that the permanent displaced Government servants from Pakistan taken on a temporary basis will not be required to go through any test;

(b) whether Government are giving effect to that assurance only in so far as the assistants are concerned; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative why this concession is being limited to assistants only?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) to (c). The statement was made by the late Sardar Patel in answering supplementaries arising out of a question about the tests for assistants under the Central Secretariat Service (Reorganisation and Reinforcement) Scheme. It represented correctly the position of the assistants with regard to these tests; and permanent displaced Government servants were in fact made eligible for confirmation on the basis of their seniority without being required to qualify at the tests. The statement was not intended to be of general application.