

COUNCIL OF STATES

Thursday 9th April 1953.

The Council met at two of the clock 3n the afternoon, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CAPITAL GOODS

*343. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of capital goods received by India every year since 1947 from (i) the United States of America, and (ii) the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics; and

(b) how much of these capital goods imported from each of those countries was in the form of free aid and how much was on sale basis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): (a) Exact figures are not available, as imports into India are not classified as 'capital goods' or otherwise. Imports of capital goods from the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. during each of the five years ended March 1952 and the 9 months April-December 1952, are, however, estimated to have been as follows:—

	In crores	
	U.S.A.	U.S.S.R.
	Rs.	Rs.
1947-48	18	—
1948-49	24	Negligible.
1949-50	28	Negligible.
1950-51	18	—
1951-52	23	0.01
April-December, 1952	14	0.02

(b) From the U.S.S.R., India has not "received any 'capital goods' in the form of free aid.

Imports as free aid from the U.S.A. comprise of capital and other goods. Separate figures for the capital goods are not maintained. However, the total value of material and equipment

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imported for Capital Projects as free aid from the U.S.A. during 1952-53 is estimated at about Rs. 9 crores. There were no such imports in other years.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know what will be the percentage of these capital goods imported to the total goods imported from America?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: The overall imports from the U.S.A. were as follows:—

	(In Rs. crores)
1947-48	120.18
1948-49	108.74
1949-50	94.52
1950-51	115.82
1951-52	287.91
1952-53	155.32

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Do these figures include the price of the wheat which we imported from America?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: The figure for 1951-52 is Rs. 287.91 crores. So—subject to correction—it includes the price of wheat also.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know the reason why capital goods were not purchased from Russia?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: It depend* upon the terms that we get, upon the materials that we want, and upon the ability of the U.S.S.R. to supply them.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Was any attempt made to obtain capital goods from the U.S.S.R.?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I think, yes.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Do I understand that the Government made attempts to get capital goods from Russia? From what the hon. Minister has stated just now, do I understand that Government itself attempted to obtain capital goods from Russia?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Government have not made any such attempts.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Will the hon. Minister kindly explain as to who made such attempts in relation to the reply that he gave to the former question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is; Did any private agencies approach the U.S.S.R. for capital goods?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I want notice. I have not got that information.

BENEVOLENT FUND

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

(a) whether there are funds for the Army and Navy on the model of the Armed Forces Headquarters Benevolent Fund; and

(b) if so, what grants have been made by Government to the Army and Navy Benevolent Funds in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE ORGANISATION (SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the Council.

STATEMENT *re*: FUNDS FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY

Army.—The Army has the following Benevolent Funds:—

(i) Flag Day Fund:

(ii) Army Central Welfare Fund.

In 1951, a sum of Rs. 6,10,00) was given to the Army Flag Day Fund from the Flag Day collections of 1950.

In 1952, a sum of Rs. 5,00,000 has been earmarked for grant to the Army Fund from the Flag Day collections of 1951; but this amount has not yet been paid.

A sum of Rs. 2,75,000 was paid to the Army Headquarters from the Armed Forces Benevolent Fund controlled by the Ministry of Defence for credit to the Army Central Welfare Fund for the year 1951-52 and a similar sum for the year 1952-53.

Navy.—Similarly, allocations have been made to the Navy from the Flag Day collections and the Armed Forces Benevolent Fund. The counterpart in the Navy to the Army Central Welfare Fund is the Naval Benevolent Association Fund. A sum of Rs. 90,000 was given to the Navy in 1951 from the Flag Day collections of 1950 and Rs. 80,000 have been earmarked for payment from the 1951 collections.

The amount paid from the Armed Forces Benevolent Fund to the Naval Benevolent Association Fund during each of the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 was Rs. 10,000.

SHRI M. VALIULLAH: Is there a fund called the Indian Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Fund?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Yes, Sir. The fund is for their benefit.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are these funds organised State-wise, *e.g.*, Part A State Fund, Part B State Fund, etc.?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Yes, Sir. Flag Day contributions are collected State-wise.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are attempts made to combine these Part A State funds and Part B State funds?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: The funds always belong to the Central pool, but they are collected State-wise and allotted according to the needs of each State.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Are the grants made to these funds earmarked for any particular purpose?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Yes, Sir. They are spent for benevolent purposes, both for the persons in service and also for ex-servicemen.