

ment is not enlisting them as refugees; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR REHABILITATION (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) No. They are being treated as other displaced persons from East Pakistan.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME UNDER THE COLOMBO PLAN.

*336†. **SHRI S. MAHANTY:** Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount contributed by the Government of India towards the Technical Assistance Programme under the Colombo Plan in Asia since the date of its inception and the amount of similar contributions by other Asian countries who have joined the programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): The contribution by the participating Governments to the Technical Assistance Scheme was a commitment of provision of technical assistance upto a specified value. The value of such contribution promised by the Asian countries for the duration of the Scheme which is up to the end of June 1957 is as follows:—

India—equivalent of £750,000.

Ceylon—equivalent of £400,000.

Pakistan—equivalent of £161,290.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: What is the scope and purpose of this Technical Assistance Programme under the Colombo Plan?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: The purpose is to give training facilities. Experts are provided in the setting up of certain

plants for irrigation works, sericulture industry and other technical matters. Money is spent on the pay and allowances of the experts offered to other member countries, training facilities to foreign students for specialized studies.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: How many experts have the Government of India received under this Technical Assistance Programme, and how many have been sent out, and how many trainees have they sent to foreign countries?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: 100 candidates taken by India—Burma 8, Ceylon 15, Indonesia 4, Malaya 4, Nepal 26, Pakistan 20, Philippines 15, Thailand 8. Last year 55 scholarships were offered by India of which only 20 places have so far been taken up. All cases are given reasonable consideration. In 1953-54 also India decided to make offers of scholarships and fellowships.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What the hon. Member wants to know is—How many technical experts have we received and how many were sent out and how many students were sent for receiving training?

MR. M. C. SHAH: I spoke about the training. I already said 100 in the year uptil now and I have also said that 55 scholarships and fellowships were given last year. 83 seats were taken up.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Which are the other participating countries under this Colombo Plan?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Australia, New Zealand, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Laos, Indonesia, Burma, Malaya and Singapore, Ceylon, Nepal, Pakistan, U.K., Canada, U.S.A. and India.

COURT MARTIALS

*349. **SHRI V. K. DHAGE:** (On behalf of DR. R. B. GOUR): Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of District, General and Summary Court Martials which had taken place in the three wings of the Armed Forces each year during the past four years; and

(b) how many of the cases tried by them related to corruption, theft, misuse of Government property, illegal sale of arms and ammunition and other such instances of defalcations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): (a) and (b). Two statements are placed on the Table of the Council. [See Appendix IV, Annexure Nos. 91 and 92.]

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: In the statement supplied I find that in the year 1948-49 the number of people tried by the General Courts Martial were 92 and by District Courts Martial, 78, whereas in the details given in the second sheet I find that the total number tried by General Courts Martial is 32 and by the District Courts Martial is 31. May I know what happened to the rest?

AN HON. MEMBER: Discharged.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: The second statement which the hon. Member must have read carefully shows the number of persons tried and convicted whereas the first was for the number who were court-martialled but not necessarily convicted.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I therefore take it that the rest of them have not been convicted or that they have been set free? Which of the two?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Obviously it is correct that the others have not been convicted.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: How many of them have been set free?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member wants to know—Have they been acquitted or are they still under trial?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Speaking subject to correction, I mean only for the year 1948-49, no one would be under trial, and those not convicted must have been released.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is the fact? What exactly is the fact—not assumptions?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: The fact is—those not convicted have been released.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Has the hon. Minister got the information with him?

(No reply.)

HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

*358. **SHRI V. K. DHAGE:** (On behalf of DR. R. B. GOUR): Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions were made at the last session of the Historical Records Commission that the secret files of the Government of India relating to the period of British administration in India should be thrown open for research;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the suggestions; and

(c) what steps are being taken in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Is it not a fact that even secret files of the Government of India were made available upto a certain date?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, Sir, at present *bona fide* research students are allowed access to confidential as well as non-confidential records in the custody of the National Archives of