

**SURPLUS STAFF IN THE ORDNANCE
FACTORIES**

*253 SHRI B GUPTA: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any section of the workers has been declared "surplus" in any ordnance factory; if so, (i) the name of each such factory; (ii) the number of the "surplus" staff; and (iii) the reasons for their being declared "surplus"; and

(b) whether there has been any negotiation between the authorities and the representatives of trade unions in the matter; if so, what representations have been made by those representatives during such negotiation?

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

(a) No, Sir, but the matter is under examination (i), (ii) and (iii) do not arise.

(b) No, Sir.

DESIGNS OF MUNITIONS

*254 SHRI B GUPTA: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government procure from abroad any designs for the production of munitions; if so, from which countries; and

(b) whether any arrangements have been made for the training of designers in India; if so, when India is expected to be self-sufficient in that respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA):

(a) Yes. It is not in the public interest to mention the names of countries from which we get such assistance.

(b) Yes. It will be some years before self-sufficiency is reached because this is a highly specialised field

in which training and practical experience over a number of years is essential.

**DEMOTION OF WORKERS IN THE ALIPORE
MINT**

*255. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that notices of demotions have been served on 229 workers of the Government of India Mint, Alipore, on 14th January 1953;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, how many of these workers are in permanent service;

(c) whether it is a fact that as a result of the demotion the wages of some of the workers will be reduced to 30 to 40 per cent. of their wages before demotion; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Finance Minister gave an assurance to the Mint workers that a Manning table would be prepared and discussed with their representatives before orders for demotion are served?

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) 91 of these workers are permanent and were served with notices of reversion to their substantive posts from the higher posts in which they had been officiating. The remaining 138 were temporary workmen who were served with notices of discharge simultaneously with letters of re-engagement in the lower grade.

(c) Yes, but only in the case of 15 such workmen (3 permanent and 12 temporary) out of these 229 persons.

(d) The Minister agreed to a discussion round the table between the Mint Master and the Union regarding the possibility of absorbing surplus labour on the basis of the Mint requirements. Government's decision was made after such discussions.