

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : How much ? Can the hon. Minister give any information ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : I cannot say at present.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : How many acres of land will be irrigated in the Koyna Valley and in the Krishna Valley with the help of this project ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : When it is fully implemented, about 350,000 acres will be irrigated.

MR. CHAIRMAN : 350,000 acres.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Is it a fact, Sir, that the project has been revised so as to supply power, not for irrigation in the valley but for the mills in Bombay and Ahmedabad ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : No, Sir, it has not been revised with that object.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Will the Government lay the original scheme and the revised scheme on the Table of the House ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : No, Sir, it is not the intention to lay them on the Table because they are being done by the Bombay Government and the revised project is not yet ready.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : In view of the fact that there is misgiving in that part of the country, will the Government elicit public opinion by publishing these two schemes ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : That is for the Bombay Government.

OCCUPATION OF HYDERABAD HOUSE

*304. SHRI V. K. DHAGE : Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hyderabad House was in the occupation of the Government of India during the war and post-war years ; if so, under what agreement and on what terms ;

(b) whether any rent has been paid to the Hyderabad Government for the use of these premises ; if so, how much and at what rate ;

(c) whether it was one of the terms of such occupation that the Government of India would carry out all repairs necessitated on account of the above use ;

(d) whether the Government of India carried out any such repairs to the House ; if not, who did it ;

(e) what expenditure, if any, was incurred by the Government of India towards these repairs ; and

(f) whether the Government of India are still in occupation of the whole or any part of the House ; if so, on what terms ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAJIN) : (a) (1) A portion of the Hyderabad House which was placed at the disposal of the Government of India by the Nizam's Government was occupied by the Government of India between 1942 and September 1946, on the condition that it would be returned to the Nizam's Government in its original condition. No rent was payable for this occupation.

(2) 3 or 4 rooms (not in the main building) were occupied by the States Finances Enquiry Committee by arrangement with the Hyderabad Government for 6 months in 1949-50, free of rent.

(3) A small portion of the building has been in Government's occupation since March 1950. The military barracks have been in Government's occupation since November 1952. The rent for these is under consideration.

(b) Actual payment has not been made yet.

(c) Regarding the portion occupied up to September 1946, the answer is in the affirmative. Regarding subsequent occupation no such term was laid down. For the portion now under occupation, the matter is under consideration of the Government of India.

(d) Repairs were carried out by the Government of India from time to time, as and when necessary, to the portion occupied by Government. Terminal repairs were carried out by the Hyderabad Government to whom a terminal compensation was paid by Government of India for repairing the portion occupied up to 1946.

(e) So far as information is available, an expenditure of Rs. 1,01,407 was incurred by Government of India towards repairs, in addition to the amount of terminal compensation of Rs. 1,52,924 mentioned above.

(f) An area of 6,412 sq. ft. is still under occupation. The terms have not yet been finalised, and are under consideration of the Government of India.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : Did the Maharaja of Nepal stay at the Hyderabad House at any time ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : Yes, Sir ; he stayed there once as the guest of the Government of India.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : Yes, Sir. He stayed there more than once. I think on two occasions he stayed there. Once he stayed there for a fairly lengthy period ; that is, when he came away from Nepal for the first time, I think he stayed there for four or five months. Subsequently he stayed only for a few days at the Hyderabad House. Apart from that, the Hyderabad House has sometimes been used, with the consent of the Hyderabad Government, to accommodate distinguished guests of the Government.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : Was any rent payable to the Hyderabad Government for that stay ?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : That question has been answered, I think. So far as I know, nothing has been actually paid, but obviously such liabilities as we have will be met.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : How long will it take for the Government of India to settle this liability ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : As I have already stated, we have already paid Rs. 1,52,924 for the occupation during the war, and we have taken this accommodation—a few rooms—last month, and some in 1950, for which the rent is under consideration.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : Did the Hyderabad Government carry out any repairs to the house during this period ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : Yes, Sir. For occupation by the Government of India during the war years, they, without waiting for the Government of India to carry out repairs, took the work in their own hands, and later the Government of India, after examining the repairs, paid the amount which I have already mentioned.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : What was the claim preferred by the Government for Hyderabad for the repairs carried out by them ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : The claim of the Government of Hyderabad was about Rs. 5 lakhs, but the amount paid by us was Rs. 1,52,924.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : Was that the arrangement come to between the Hyderabad Government and the then Government of India ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : There was no written agreement in this matter. The only condition was that the palace should be handed back to the Government of Hyderabad in its original condition.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : Was there a conference between a Minister jo

the Hyderabad Government and one of the Secretaries to the Government of India for the settlement of the claim preferred by the Hyderabad Government ?

SHRI S. N. BURAGOHAIN : I believe the matter was considered.

RAJARAM COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

*305. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the recommendations made by the Rajaram Committee regarding the supply of food to the tea garden labourers at subsidised rates ;

(b) if so, what is the decision; and

(c) whether Government propose to consult the representatives of tea garden labourers before any such decision is implemented ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) and (b). The matter is still under the consideration of the Government.

(c) This is one of the subjects that will be discussed at the forthcoming tripartite conference to be held on the 19th and the 20th December 1952, at Calcutta.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know whether Government is going to place any suggestions before that conference ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : There will be discussion, and there will be suggestions put forward on behalf of Government if necessary.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : I want to know whether Government will put forward any suggestions before the conference in this matter.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : The conference will consider what should be the concessions which should be

given to labour, and all relevant suggestions are bound to come up. I cannot anticipate what the suggestions will be.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know what answer the Government of India will give to the representation of the West Bengal Government in this matter ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I should wait a little before answering that question. Not now. It is premature now.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : This question was answered in connection with an unstarred question. It was stated that the Government of India did reply to the representation of the West Bengal Government.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I should like to have notice.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know whether the Government stands by its previous assurance that the existing privileges of the labourers will not be curtailed ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : All these questions will be considered by the tripartite conference. What the precise effect of the deliberations of the conference will be, it is a little premature to say. The conference is coming on immediately. I hope the hon. Member appreciates that.

EXCISE DUTY ON COFFEE

*306. SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the excise duty collected on coffee during 1951-52 ;

(b) what percentage of such collection was spent on increasing coffee production ; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be nil what are the reasons for not spending any amount to increase the production of coffee ?