

and laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Kuchipudi Natyam

2491. **Kumarj M. Vedakumarj:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kuchipudi Natyam was not recognised as a classical dance by an Expert Committee of Sangeet Natak Akademi; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The Expert Committee appointed by the Sangeet Natak Akademi to advise the Akademi, in its policy of awards to artists in the field of dancing and the categories of dances in which these awards should be given, has not yet submitted its report.

(b) Does not arise.

Life Insurance Corporation

2492. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamanl:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Life Insurance Corporation is intending to utilise Co-operative Societies as its agents in rural areas to boost up insurance business;

(b) if so, whether the scheme has been formulated by the Corporation; and

(c) the main features of the scheme?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The scheme is under the consideration of the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

Water Supply in Andamans

2493. **Shri Lachman Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dalthaman Tank which is the main source of supply of water in Andamans has been cleaned; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). General cleaning of the Dalthaman Tank is being done regularly. The Geological Survey of India have advised that desilting of tank should not be done. Water is, however, filtered and chlorinated regularly and also tested by Public Health Officer every month.

Medical Specialists in Andamans

2494. **Shri Lachman Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no medical specialists in Andaman Islands;

(b) whether Government are considering to post specialists on eye, nose, ear and throat in these Islands; and

(c) if so, how far the matter has been considered?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) There is no medical specialist in the Islands.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to send a medical graduate for a specialised training in eye, ear, nose and throat. These islands have only a small population and do not, therefore, need wholetime specialists.

Buffaloes for Andamans

2495. **Shri Lachman Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that buffaloes for ploughing by displaced

persons in Andamans, are bought at high price from the mainland; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that buffaloes are available locally at cheaper rates?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Plough animals for supply to settlers in Andamans were purchased after inviting quotations at Rs. 312.50 nP. per cattle inclusive of all incidental charges for delivery at Port Blair but excluding the freight.

(b) Plough animals are not available locally in such numbers as were required for the settler families.

Birla Industrial Museum

2696. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has decided to spend more than six lakhs of rupees for the repair and renovation of the Birla Industrial Museum Building, Calcutta, which has been donated by the Birlas; and

(b) what is the expert engineering opinion about the life of the present building after repair and renovation?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) No Sir. The expenditure proposed to be incurred on the repairs and renovation of the building is estimated to be Rs. 3.7 lakhs.

(b) It is reported that after the present repairs and renovation, the building is likely to have a life of 25 to 30 years provided periodical repairs and maintenance are efficiently carried out.

Loans to Displaced Persons of Tripura

2697. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan advanced by Rehabilitation Finance Ad-

ministration to the displaced persons of Tripura so far;

(b) the total number of petitions for loans still pending for final consideration and disposal; and

(c) the amount realised from the loanees?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):

(a) Rs. 15,29,950.

(b) 50.

(c) Rs. 1,42,910.48 nP.

Private Schools in Tripura

2698. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not transferring the management of private schools and the social education centres to the Territorial Council of Tripura; and

(b) when it is proposed to be done?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). The management of private schools does not vest in the Administration but in the respective managing bodies of private education institutions. The question, therefore, of transferring the management of private schools to the Territorial Council does not arise. As regards social education, this is not included in the matters which, under the provisions of the Territorial Councils Act, are to be under the control of the Council.

Gurkhas in the Indian Army

2699. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the Government of India have fixed a quota for recruitment of Gurkhas in the Indian Army?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramalah): No, Sir. The recruitment of Gurkhas in the Indian Army is governed by increase/decrease in establishments, actual deficiencies and anticipated wastages.