

(b) if so, what are its proposals; and

(c) how much time Government will take to bring the Bill seeking to amend the Representation of the People Acts before the House?

The Minister of Law and Social Security (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) and (b). The Report (Vol. I) of the Election Commission on the Third General Elections containing, *inter alia*, the proposals for changes in the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, has just been received by the Government from the Election Commission. As the Report is a fairly big one, it is being studied to assess and appreciate the various proposals in the context of the existing provisions of our election law and the prevailing electoral practices in the country. A quick study of the Report, however, shows that proposals have been made, *inter alia*—

- (i) with respect to election expenses;
- (ii) with respect to certain aspects of electioneering; and
- (iii) with respect to multiplicity of candidates in the General Elections.

(c) Just now it is not possible to mention any specific time within which a Bill to amend the election law may be brought before Parliament.

Advocates Act, 1961

***698. Shri Buta Singh:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Narasimha Reddy:**

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the rules framed by different State Bar Councils, especially the Punjab Bar Council under Section 28(2) of the Advocates Act, 1961, are defective and cumbersome;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to remove the hardships; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Law and Social Security (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) No, Sir.

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

Old Age Pension Scheme

***699. Shri Linga Reddy:
Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 458 on the 7th September, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the Old Age Pension Scheme has been finalised; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) No, Sir. The Scheme is still under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Ships Impounded by Pakistan

***700. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Kindar Lal:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Indian Ships belonging to the Scindia Steam Navigation Co. impounded by the Pakistan Government in Karachi Port during the Indo-Pakistan conflict are sailing under Pakistani flag; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Government have no authentic information in this matter, but according to press reports, the two vessels in question, *viz.*, 'Jalrajendra' and 'Saraswati' are sailing under the Pakistan flag.

(b) Government had offered by means of a press note dated 21st Octo-