

the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** (a) Yes, Sir. Orders exist for the sale of surplus 'B' vehicles when available direct to Ex-servicemen for the purpose of their rehabilitation in civil life.

(b) Applications from Ex-servicemen for release of vehicles are entertained on the basis of recommendations of the ISS&A Board and the Director General of Resettlement. An Ex-serviceman is not eligible for the release of more than one vehicle. The vehicles are released to them at a price 15% higher than that obtained at an auction held before the date of release, for the reasons that the better vehicles are reserved for disposal to Ex-servicemen and the sale is direct, saving for the Ex-servicemen the burden of the commission to middlemen.

(c) No, Sir.

**Agreement with ESSO Standard Eastern Oil Company**

\*1291. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
 { Shri P. C. Borooah:  
 { Shri Warrior:  
 { Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Esso Standard Eastern Oil Company has offered to scrap the refinery agreement and to replace it with the usual industrial licence;

(b) whether it is a fact that Esso is willing to consider Indian Public ownership of shares in the Company proposed to be incorporated in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

**The Minister of Mines & Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. It is proposed to hold discussions with the Company.

**Pig Iron Plant**

\*1292. **Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned the setting up of a low-shaft furnace pig iron plant in Vidarbha area of Maharashtra State;

(b) if so, whether it is in the private sector; and

(c) the proposed site for its location?

**The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Chanda District, Maharashtra.

**Hindu Succession Act**

\*1293. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 362 on the 23rd November, 1961 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken by Government to amend the Hindu Succession Act in the light of the Punjab High Court Judgement published in 1961 (Punjab 489 A.I.R.); and

(b) if not, when it will be taken?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Bibudhendra Mishra):** (a) and (b). The Central Government is awaiting the decision of the Punjab Government on the Report of the Committee appointed by the State Government to suggest amendments to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 in relation to that State. Final decision will be taken only after the views of the Punjab Government have been received.

**Hostile Nagas' Activities in Manipur**

\*1294. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of encounters and names of places where encounters