The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The Union Public Service Commission established under Article 315(1) of the Constitution is concerned with recruitment to Class I and Class II posts in the Union Territory of Tripura also. No difficulty has been experienced so far in making these recruitments through the Union Public Service Commission.

(b) and (c). Five Class I posts and 51 Class II posts are lying vacant. Out of these, recruitment action in respect of 4 Class I posts and 41 Class II posts has been initiated already by the Union Public Service Commission.

Allocation of Iron and Steel

- *1233. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have now suspended the annual allocation of Iron and Steel under small scale industries quota to different States; and
- (b) the quantity of iron and steel allocated to the State of Orissa under this quota?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir. Allocations of steel are now made quarterly.

(b) A quantity of 263 tons of steel has been allotted to Orissa under Small Scale Industries Quota in each of the two quarters of 1957-58.

West German Technical Mission

- *1234. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the report of the German Technical Mission which visited India in October, 1956 in connection with the establishment of a Higher Technological Institute, has been made available to Government; and
- (b) if so, the place where the Institute will be located?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to utilise the German assistance in the establishment of the Southern Higher Technological Institute in Madras.

State Social Welfare Advisory Boards

*1235. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards have been asked by the Central Board to send schemes for starting "Homes" in States;
- (b) whether schemes have been received from all the States; and
- (c) the maximum cost of each "Home" to be set up?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) These schemes are drawn up by the State Governments in consultation with the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards and are submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

- (b) No. Sir.
- (c) (i) Rs. 70,000 non-recurring.
 - (n) Rs. 60,000 recurring per year.

Employment Office for the Blind at Madras

*1239, Shri Naldurgker: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

- (a) how many blind adults have been employed so far through the Employment Office which has been functioning at Madras since July, 1954;
- (b) what sort of employment they are provided with; and
- (c) whether they get any monthly or annual salary or any other monetary provision is made for them?

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The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) 67.

- (b) A statement giving the industries in which they have been employed is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 109].
- (c) They are paid on the same basis as other workers. No special provision is made for them.

Committee on Indian Companies Act

*1240. Shri Sankanna: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the report of the Committee to suggest amendments to the Companies Act, 1956 has been received;
- (b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee; and
- (c) action taken by Government thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No. Sir.

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

Re-employment of Ex-convicts

*1241. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases in which appointing authorities sought the approval of Government regarding reemployment of ex-convicts involving offences other than moral turpitude under Government during the years 1956 and 1957 so far; and
- (b) the number of cases in which approval was given and appointments made by the authorities?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar); (a) and (b). There is no ban on the employment of persons convicted of offences not involving moral turpitude. Hence the question of appointing authorities seeking the approval of Government in such cases does not arise.

Defence Stores

*1242. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) the value of Defence Stores purchased from U.K. during 1956; and
- (b) whether some of these stores could have been manufactured in Ordnance factories?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence (Shri Fatesinghrao Gackwad): (a) The value of stores purchased through our High Commission in the U.K. during 1956 is Rs. 3453.83 lakhs. This figure represents the stores purchased from the U.K. as well as from other European Countries. No separate accounts are maintained in respect of stores purchased only from the U.K.

(b) It is the policy of Government to restrict procurement of Defence stores from foreign countries to those items which are neither indigenously available from manufacturers/stockists nor can be manufactured by the Ordnance Factories.

Writ Petitions

926. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of writ petitions filed in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Manipur during the years 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957 so far; and
- (b) how many of them have been admitted and how many rejected?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) One in 1954, seventeen in eighteen in 1956 and four in 1957.

(b) Fourteen were admitted and thirteen rejected.