

Merger of Cantonments with Local Bodies

*923. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to merge the Cantonments with the Municipalities or Corporations; and

(b) if so, when a final decision is likely to be taken on this matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence (Shri Fatesingh-rao Gaekwad): (a) and (b). There is no such proposal. The Estimates Committee have recommended in their 46th Report that the abolition of Cantonments as commonly understood should be the goal which should be reached in the minimum possible period. The recommendation is under consideration.

Closure of Mines in Punjab

*924. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the name and the number of mines closed in the Punjab during 1956-57;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to reopen them?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Only one iron mine in Punjab, known as the "Chapra Biharipur" in Mohindragarh District, owned by the India Stone Lime Company was closed on the 30th June, 1957.

(b) The reason for closure is the Company's inability to market the ore.

(c) The State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd. is making every attempt to sell the ore, but its phosphorus content is high.

Election of Shri V. V. Giri

{ **Shri Vajpayee:**
Shri Sanganna:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri B. C. Mullick:
Shri Ignace Beck:
Shri Kumbhar:
Shri B. C. Kamble:
*925. { **Shri Manay:**
Shri D. A. Katti:
Shri Balasaheb Salunke:
Shri Dige:
Shri Jaipal Singh:
Shri Frank Anthony:
Shri Barrow:
Shri B. K. Gaikwad:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the constitutional implications involved in the declared election to the Lok Sabha of Shri V. V. Giri, Governor of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the conclusions drawn?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) The matter is still under the consideration of the Ministry of Law.

(b) The question does not arise.

Training in Atomic Warfare

*926. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken to train our Defence Forces in the technique of atomic warfare; and

(b) whether any Newsletter or Magazine is published for the Defence Forces containing news of latest technique of warfare and defence science?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) No special steps have been taken to give training in the technique of atomic warfare to our defence forces: But some theoretical study of the technique of atomic, biological and chemical warfare is given at the Army's Training School.

(b) Yes, a number of journals are published on behalf of the defence services containing articles on the latest development in warfare including use of nuclear weapons.

It should be remembered that it is the declared policy of the Government of India not to use atomic weapons.

Senior Services Committee Report

- *927. {
 Shri Shree Narayan Das:
 Shri Radha Raman:
 Shri R. S. Lal:
 Shri Jadhav:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Prabhat Kar:
 Shri A. K. Gopalan:
 Shri Warrior:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Senior Services Committee on Life Insurance Corporation for appropriately grading the officers of the former Insurance Companies taken over by the Corporation has been finally considered;

(b) if so, nature of the decisions taken; and

(c) the time by which question of fixation of seniority of officers will be settled?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) to (c). The consideration of the report has, I understand, reached an advanced stage and it is hoped that a decision will be taken very soon.

Backward Classes

- *928 {
 Sardar Iqbal Singh:
 Shri B. C. Kamble:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the progress so far made regarding the *ad hoc* survey that is being conducted by Government for classification of Backward Classes in India?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): The work relating to the *ad hoc* survey which is being conducted in the States of Madras, Bombay and West Bengal only as an experimental measure, is likely to be completed by February, 1958.

Delegation of Indian Educationists to U.S.S.R.

- *487. {
 Shri Harish Chandra
 Mathur:
 Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

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

(a) the main recommendations or suggestions made in the report submitted to the Government of India by the Team of Indian educationists who visited Russia at the invitation of the U.S.S.R. Government in September, 1956; and

(b) what benefit, if any, has been derived from this report by Government?

The Minister in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The Delegation has not made any recommendations or suggestions.

(b) The report which has been published is an addition to educational literature brought out by Government.

State Bank of India

1293. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a branch of the State Bank of India during 1957-58 at Imphal; and

(b) if so, when?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A branch of the State Bank of India will be opened at Imphal as soon as accommodation suitable to the Bank's requirement is available. It cannot, however, be said definitely that the branch will be opened during 1957-58.