

Neivell Lignite Project

*87. { Shri S. V. Ramaswami:
Shri Narasimhan:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 69 on the 16th May, 1957 and state:

(a) the progress since made in the setting up of the Lignite Project at Neiveli;

(b) whether all the required machinery have arrived;

(c) how far have the earth removing operations progressed; and

(d) when it is expected to reach the lignite bed?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 25].

Purchase of Tripura Palace

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

(a) whether Government have a proposal to purchase the Palace of Her Highness, the Maharani of the ex-Ruler of Tripura; and

(b) if so, how far the negotiations have progressed?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). The Government have received a proposal for the purchase of a major portion of the Palace, but do not intend to accept it.

Delhi-Punjab Industrial Finance Agreement

*100. { Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Heda:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement between the Punjab Government and

the Delhi Administration has been reached for the purpose of advancing of loans for the promotion of medium and large scale industries in the Union territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the principal terms of the agreement; and

(c) whether its implementation has been started?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) An agreement was signed on the 14th October, 1957 by the State of Punjab and the Union territory of Delhi to enable the Punjab Financial Corporation, established by the Government of Punjab under the State Financial Corporations Act, 1951, to extend its jurisdiction to serve the needs of the Union Territory of Delhi as well.

(b) A copy of the agreement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No. 26]

(c) Yes, Sir.

Income-Tax Investigation Commission

*101. **Shri V. C. Shukla:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to invalidation of certain sections of the Income-Tax Investigation Commission Act by a Supreme Court judgement, huge amount of settled income-tax is liable to be refunded to various proved tax-evaders; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to correct the legal lacuna so as to prevent loss to the public exchequer?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) In respect of cases in which the liability of the assessee to pay tax was settled on "agreed basis" under section 8A of the Taxation on Income (Investigation Commission) Act, 1947, the Government have been advised that the Supreme Court's judgments invalidating certain provisions of that Act do not affect the liability of the asses-

sees arising out of such settlements. In the circumstances, the question of refunding of tax already paid by such persons does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

Uniform Sales Tax and Excise Duties

*102. **Shri Easwara Iyer:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1800 on the 9th September, 1957 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any further steps to introduce uniform rates of Sales Tax and Excise duties; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and the items expected to be covered by the uniform rates?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The proposals are still under consideration and are being processed in consultation with State Governments

Land Survey of Tripura

*103. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have approved a scheme of general land survey of Tripura;

(b) whether an amount of rupees 1 crore and 33 lakhs has been sanctioned for this purpose;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the survey is being hampered for want of technical personnel; and

(d) if so, whether the Government of India contemplate to establish a Survey School in Tripura?

The Minister of State in Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) No. Such a school does not appear necessary, since the required staff is being arranged by loan from

other States and by on-the-job training of the local staff.

Central Advisory Board for Tribal Welfare

*104. { **Shri B. S. Murthy:**
Shri Heda:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the items discussed at the meeting of the Central Advisory Board for Tribal Welfare held in New Delhi on the 13th October, 1957; and

(b) the decisions taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). A copy of the minutes of the meeting giving the items discussed and decisions taken, is laid on the Table of of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No. 27.]

Manganese Ore in Andhra

*105 **Shri Balarama Krishnaiah:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal to make use of the low grade Manganese Ore obtaining in Cheepurapalli area of Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): It is too early as yet to say what use will be made of the low grade manganese ore found in the Cheepurapalli area since the investigations into the beneficiation of these ores being conducted by the Indian Bureau of Mines in collaboration with the National Metallurgical Laboratory will take time to complete.

Hindi

*106. { **Shri Parulekar:**
Shri Sanganna:

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

(a) the amount of Central grants sanctioned for the propagation of