

Indian Military Mission to Egypt

*125. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Military Mission headed by the Chief of the Army Staff visited Egypt recently;

(b) if so, the object of the visit; and

(c) the duration of its stay in that country?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): (a) No Indian Military Mission as such visited Egypt recently. However, the Chief of the Army Staff, accompanied by the Master General of Ordnance, paid a visit to Egypt, on their way back to India after attending the Conference of Commonwealth Army Chiefs in the U.K.

(b) To visit our Para Battalion serving with the United Nations Emergency Force at Gaza Strip.

(c) 3 days.

Research in Explosives

*126. { **Shri Subodh Hasda:**
Shri R. C. Majhi:

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

(a) whether any research work has been taken up by our Research Laboratories for the manufacture of different varieties of explosives in India for purposes other than military;

(b) if so, the names of the laboratories carrying out the research at present and the results, if any, which have been achieved; and

(c) the number of varieties of explosives for which research is being carried out?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrinani): (a) No, Sir.

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

Corruption in States

*127. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the help rendered by the Centre to the State Governments to root out corruption?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The Central Government is only responsible for taking measures to check corruption on the part of Central Government employees for which purpose they have got under them an investigating agency called the Delhi Special Police Establishment. The Special Police Establishment also assists State Governments as and when such assistance is asked for.

Sethu Samudaram Project

33. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 932 on the 17th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the report of the traffic survey by the Director General of Shipping with regard to Sethu Samudaram project has since been received;

(b) if so, whether it has been examined; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The Director General of Shipping is awaiting some data called for by him from the Indian National Steamship Owners' Association for the preparation of the report.

Miraj-Kolhapur Railway Section

34. **Shri Sugandhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to convert the Metre-Gauge section of the present Miraj-Kolhapur of Southern Railways into Broad Gauge one; and

(b) if so, when the work will be taken up?