

inform the House that every year, the number of universities which participate in this festival is increasing. In the first year, we had 25, in the second year, we had 25, in the third year 31, and in the fourth year 38. Practically all the universities had participated. And their number has increased.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** Will the Minister kindly state whether provision will be made for sufficient accommodation in future celebrations, so that people who want to come are not turned back?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** As far as my information goes, sufficient and adequate arrangements are made for all the participants. But, obviously, Government cannot make provision for accommodation for visitors.

**Shri Ranga:** In view of the fact that for very much less important functions from the national point of view, many of our own national leaders are good enough to go and attend and address those gatherings, would Government assure us that their decision in regard Delhi is not final and that opportunity might be given for other centres also to have this national festival which is of such great importance?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** This is a suggestion for action, and we shall certainly consider that.

**Shri Tyagi:** May I know the total expenditure incurred on the last occasion on this function?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** On the last festival we spent Rs. 2.98 lakhs.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** If Government are not prepared to accommodate visitors who want to see this function, what is the meaning of having these celebrations at all?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** The celebration is meant for the students; and if Government have to make arrangements for accommodation of visitors, then there would be any number of visitors, and I think it will be a task which could not physically be accomplished by Government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** In view of some keen interest taken by a section of the House, I shall try to give an elaborate answer to this question.

**Mr. Speaker:** How many pages does it run to?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Just a page.

**Indian Bureau of Mines**

{ **Shri Bimal Ghose:**  
**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:**  
**Shri Haider:**  
 \*2029. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**  
**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**  
**Shri Muhammad Ellas:**  
**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the offices of the Indian Bureau of Mines is proposed to be moved from Calcutta to some other place outside West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total expenditure to be incurred as a result thereof?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The immediate reason for this decision is the extreme congestion in Delhi. The accommodation position in Delhi has been acute for some time. Latterly it has become critical and now intolerable. This situation has compelled Government to move out a number of offices from Delhi. These offices are necessarily those whose presence in Delhi is not considered absolutely essential. The Indian Bureau of Mines is one of these offices.

2. The Indian Bureau of Mines has its offices mainly at Delhi and Calcutta, apart from some regional offices at other places. For long it has been considered essential to bring all the offices together under one roof, as dispersal over long distances militates against efficiency and administrative

convenience. In the city of Delhi some of these offices are located at Factory Road, others near the Delhi University and still others alongside the Secretariat buildings, the longest distance between them being about 10 miles. In Calcutta they are even more widely dispersed. As it had become necessary for the Bureau to move out of Delhi in any case, opportunity was taken to bring all these scattered offices and laboratories together at one place at Nagpur, where the new Secretariat buildings allotted to the Bureau affords adequate accommodation to house them all.

(c) In view of the large number of personnel involved the expenditure on the transfer is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 10 lakhs. There will, however, be certain countervailing savings of a permanent nature. Most of the accommodation presently occupied by the Bureau at Calcutta is on rent, and the rentals paid are very high. The move to Nagpur will reduce this expenditure substantially. Then again, it will not be necessary for the Bureau at Nagpur to incur expenditure on the maintenance of transport for enabling personnel to move from office to office, as it does to-day both at Delhi and Calcutta. This will also mean some saving long term. There will be other economies in overheads in concentrating all the offices in the one building at Nagpur.

**Shri Bimal Ghose:** The answer is a bit long. I hope you will allow some latitude in asking supplementary questions.

**Mr. Speaker:** So far as these questions are concerned, I am not able to devote personal attention to all the 10,000 questions that are received. Some of them escape my notice. Hon. Members would have noticed after hearing questions and answers that there is a lot of congestion here. Therefore, suggestions have been made as to why offices should not be transferred from Delhi to various other places. There are particularly a number of States where the capitals have been shifted; therefore, a lot of buildings are available. If in pursu-

ance of these suggestions, the hon. Minister makes up his mind to shift some offices, immediately some people who do not want such offices to be shifted, raise objection. I am not attributing motives to any hon. Member. People may have their grievances. But then shall we appoint a sub-committee to find out or have an appellate tribunal over the Government whether one office ought to be removed or another ought to be removed? So hon. Members will kindly bear that in mind.

**Shri Bimal Ghose:** That was not my point at all. I appreciate the observations you have made. This relates to shifting the offices from Calcutta.

**Mr. Speaker:** Had I known a little earlier about this question, I would not have allowed it. I am stating the position. This is what I intend to do, subject of course, to any particular debate in this. Again and again, we have been saying that there is so much shortage of accommodation here. As many as 16,000 officers are on the waiting list. The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply has been saying that in spite of their best efforts, it has not been possible to provide accommodation for all.

Therefore, a suggestion has been made that a number of offices ought to be shifted. Again and again, questions have been asked as to why there has been so much of delay and when actually it is sought to be implemented. Any person who has settled down here and who has to be moved out of Delhi will naturally have some inconvenience. If section after section takes up the cause of a particular section of those people—I am not attributing any motives at all; they have got real grievances—how can the suggestion be carried out? After all, somebody has to suffer. Who is ultimately to decide? Shall I go on having a debate on this point or should there be an appellate tribunal over the decision of Government? That is my difficulty.

**Shri Bimal Ghose:** I entirely agree with you. My question is whether Government have found out whether

the offices could not have been located in one place in Calcutta, whether it was not a fact that the Chief Minister of West Bengal had offered accommodation for that purpose? I am not against the offices moving out of Delhi.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** These offices should be shifted to Ranchi or Dhanbad where there is enough accommodation and the area is a mine area.

**Mr. Speaker:** Why should the offices not be shifted to Calcutta?

**Shri Bimal Ghose:** That is the point. The Geological Survey is located in one place. The mines and ores are near about Calcutta. It is understood that the Government of West Bengal has also offered to find accommodation for the offices there. In the circumstances, would it not have been more economical to have these offices located in one place in Calcutta rather than take them to Nagpur?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The West Bengal Government has undoubtedly offered some accommodation. But it is not at one place. The total area offered by that Government falls much short of what we require. The total we require is more than 1.75 lakh sq. ft. of space. They have offered us much less. We will obviously have to have many more scattered places which will not fit into the pattern of our scheme, namely, to have elevated efficiency of the offices.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Is it a fact that an excellent piece of land in the Jadavpur University Campus has been offered by the West Bengal Government for housing the Indian Bureau of Mines?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The land will require buildings to be put up there. That will require some money. We have not got the money.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Rs. 10 lakhs are going to be spent.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Are Government aware that there is enough

accommodation available in Ranchi wherefrom the headquarters of the Eastern Command has been removed to Lucknow? Do Government propose to shift the offices from Calcutta to Ranchi or anywhere in the mine area?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Taking everything into consideration, we have ultimately come to the conclusion that it will be in the interest of work as well as of efficiency to move the offices to a central place. Nagpur is available to us and from all points of view, it is cheaper. Therefore, we have taken that decision.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** The hon. Minister has tried to vindicate the decision by telling us that work would improve. I want to know why the Bureau of Mines has to be away from the mines.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** It is in the centre of all the mining areas in the country.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** Is it not a fact that 90 per cent of the mines are in Jharkhand?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The fact is that all the mines that are being worked mostly in Bihar and West Bengal.....

**An Hon. Member:** Orissa also.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** ...have been discovered because of the interest that the British took about 100 years ago. Now that we have started taking interest, we are sure that we have very rich mineral ores in the central part of the country, in the south, in the west, everywhere. In view of that, we have the offices at a central place.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Is it a fact that in Nagpur accommodation has been made available only for officers drawing above Rs. 500? It is not only the Bureau of Mines but I think 4 offices are being shifted there. There are 800 people who are drawing salaries below Rs. 500, for whom accommodation has not been

made available, except for 80 of them. Is this correct?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** We are trying to find accommodation for everyone. Naturally, it might take a little time. We hope that we shall look after the comforts of all the staff.

### Legal aid to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

\*2030. **Shri Siddiah:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 797 on the 4th December, 1957 and lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) whether the schemes have since been formulated in regard to the grant of free legal aid to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes;

(c) whether there is a proposal to sanction grants to various States for the above purpose during 1958-59; and

(d) if so, the total amount set part for each State?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** (a) Schemes for giving free legal assistance to the Scheduled Castes have been received from Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. There is no need for such assistance in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and in the Laccadive Islands. Proposals from Manipur and Tripura are still awaited.

(b) Himachal Pradesh Administration have not given any details of their scheme which is likely to cost Rs. 5,000 during the year. Delhi Administration have provided Rs. 3,000 for giving legal aid in the form of lawyer's fee, court fee etc. in eviction and debt redemption cases.

(c) Yes.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in respect of those States only from which proposals have so far been received. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 124].

**Shri Siddiah:** May I know why Mysore, Madras and some other States have not been given any allotment?

**Shrimati Alva:** We have not received any information from these two States yet.

**Shri Siddiah:** May I know whether the Kerala Government had recommended separate allotment for Scheduled Castes, and if so, why that recommendation has not been accepted by Government?

**Shrimati Alva:** The figure regarding Kerala is given in the statement. If they had asked for a separate allotment, it must be under examination.

**Shri Thimmalah:** May I know in which cases this legal aid should be utilised by the State Governments?

**Shrimati Alva:** I have made it very clear. It is in eviction and debt redemption cases.

**श्री नवल प्रभाकर :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि पिछले दो वर्षों में कितने लोगों ने लीगल एड के लिए प्रार्थना-पत्र दिए और उनको कितना रुपया दिया गया।

**Shrimati Alva:** I have no information on that.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** May I know whether the Tripura Administration has made any recommendation to provide such legal aid to the Scheduled Tribes of Tripura?

**Shrimati Alva:** Tripura is not in the statement which I have laid on the Table of the House. We have not heard anything from Tripura.

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** Since very few members of the Scheduled Castes are benefited by this scheme, do the Government of India propose to give proper publicity to this? May I also know whether the Government of India would give this assistance direct to the parties if they assure the Government of India that they would bear 50 per cent of the costs?