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(c) The drilling had reached a depth of 1600 metres on 1st September, 1958.

Housing Accommodation for Army

*1043. Shri D. C Sharma: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2119 on the 9th May, 1958 and state the progress made so far with regard to the building of housing accommodation for the troops in which the armed personnel will themselves provide the labour?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): A project for the construction of domestic accommodation at Ambala was administratively approved on 26-4-1958. Work on the project commenced on 26-5-58. Construction of 1200 quarters has been taken in hand and has made very satisfactory progress. Work on the remaining 250 quarters is expected to start shortly.

State Bank of India

*1044. Sardar Iqbal Singh: . Shrimati Da Palchoudhuri:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an agreement has been reached with the Government of Pakistan regarding the functioning of State Bank of India units in Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the main features of this agreement; and
- (c) name and number of branches allowed to function under this agreement?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):
(a) to (c). The State Bank of Pakistan has recently decided to allow the branches of the State Bank of India at Lahore and Dacca to continue indefinitely, in addition to the branches at Karachi, Naraingunge and Chittagong. The decision was taken on an application made by the State Bank of India, and the question of a formal inter-governmental agreement does not arise.

Committee on Customs Procedures and Organisations

*1045. Shri Vajpayee: Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Committee on Customs Procedures and Organisations has submitted its report; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The Committee has not submitted its final report yet. The Committee which was constituted on 2nd February, 1957 was required to submit its report within nine months from the date of its appointment. However, when it was found from the number, range and nature of the replies received to its public and departmental questionnaires that it would have to handle a much more detailed investigation of Customs problems than was originally envisaged, its term was extended up to 31st October, 1958. The Committee is expected to submit its final report by that date. It has, however, been making certain interim recommendations from time to time, mainly on procedural matters and Government have already taken suitable action on most of them.

Steel Re-Rolling Mills

*1046. { Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Shri P. K. Deo: Sardar Iqbal Singh:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that steel rerolling mills are to be set up soon in a few States; and
- (b) if so, the names of the States and their location in each State?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and vuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The Government have approved the setting up of one new unit each in