

turning scrap iron into steel, as recommended by the Saxena Committee; and

(b) the details of applications received so far?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Government have under consideration forty-six applications to put up electric furnaces to manufacture steel from scrap. A decision on these is likely to be taken shortly.

Offences under the Untouchability (Offences) Act

*795. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States and Union Territories that have not supplied information regarding the offences registered under the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 and about their disposal since 1st January, 1956;

(b) the reasons for the same; and

(c) the action Government propose to take or has taken in this behalf?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) A Statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 99.]

(b) and (c). The Government of India are not aware of the circumstances in which the State Governments have not been able to furnish the relevant information. They have been requested to expedite it.

Employment of Women

*796. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All-India Conference of Social Workers for Women's Welfare which met recently in Lucknow has suggested to the Government and the Planning Commission to evolve an employment

policy for women, particularly in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take or have already taken in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) No communication on the subject appears to have been received either by Government or the Planning Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil Resources in Cauvery Basin

*798. { Shri Subbiah Ambalam:
Shri Elayaperumal:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Mines, Metals and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 730 on the 30th August, 1958 and state the progress so far made by the geological team in the survey and exploration of oil resources in the Cauvery Basin, Madras State?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): A geological party is working in Madras State and a reconnaissance survey of about 1,000 sq miles has been covered so far.

Industrial Management Pool

*799. { Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Harish Chandra
Mathur:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that applications for Industrial Management Pool were invited in March, 1957;

(b) if so, the number of applications received;

(c) whether it is also a fact that though the interviews of these candidates were held by the Union Public Service Commission from June to September, 1958 the results have not been declared so far;