

for 1958-59 are Rs. 7,49,600. May I know the reasons for this increase, whether crimes have increased or whether it is due to expansion?

Shri G. B. Pant: These institutions have been started only recently. So, expenditure has to be incurred in equipping them and also in making arrangements for training of growing numbers.

Shri Subodh Hansda: Is it not a fact that the necessary equipment except a few have been procured from foreign countries? May I know their total value?

Shri G. B. Pant: The provision for this purpose comes to a few lakhs, a release of Rs. 32,100 in foreign exchange was sanctioned for the equipment which had to be purchased from abroad during 1958-59.

Shri S. C. Samanta: As regards the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, do the people working there require legal knowledge?

Shri G. B. Pant: Not necessarily.

Marine Department, Andaman and Nicobar Islands

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*1049 { **Shri S. C. Samanta.**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that there is continued loss in the working of the various sections of the Marine Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands,

(b) if so, what is it due to, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken or already taken to avoid such losses?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No. 73]

Shri Subodh Hansda: From the statement, in item (1), I find that the losses are increasing from year to year. May I know how long the losses will be allowed to continue?

Shrimati Alva: Item (1) deals with afloat establishment. A new ferry service has been started for inter-island trade as well as passenger service. The profit or loss has to continue, we are trying our best to cut down our losses. When the volume of traffic comes to full capacity, the losses would come down.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether it is a fact that the balances of the marine stores department are increasing from year to year and whether it is a fact that the deterioration of stores is one of the main reasons for this loss?

Shrimati Alva: I could not follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether the volume of stores is increasing from year to year.

Shrimati Alva: No, that is not correct. We are keeping a strict watch on that.

Shri S. C. Samanta: As regards the afloat establishment, I appreciate that there is some loss on inter-island communication. May I know what was the income that accrued?

Shrimati Alva: I have not got the figure of income. But the inter-island communication service was losing all the time, because there was no other means of communication.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know whether there is any proposal to fix a limit on the stores?

Shrimati Alva: I am not aware of that.

Shri Tangamani: How many buses are run by the State Bus Service there? What is the loss per bus because of the increase in petrol price?

Shrimati Alva: There are five buses. I have not got the break-down figures for each bus.