

(b) in how many cases aid was given, and

(c) what steps are being taken to expedite the pending cases?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) 13

(b) 4

(c) Only one application which was received last month is pending consideration. Information on some points is awaited.

Price of Charcoal in Delhi

*345. { **Shri Assar:**
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that during the first week of February, 1959, charcoal prices in Delhi registered an unprecedented rise, and

(b) if so, the causes thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) Yes

(b) Owing to some dispute between truck owners and drivers, there was a lightning strike at the New Delhi mineral siding on January 15, 1959, causing congestion and interruption in regular wagon movement. This congestion lasted till 19th January and the railway authorities were therefore compelled to impose restrictions on the movement of non-essential commodities, which included charcoal. These restrictions were in force from January 18 to February 2, 1959, with the result that the normal supply of charcoal was interrupted and it fell short of the demand.

Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund

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

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

(a) the main sources which contribute to the Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund,

(b) how this fund is utilised, and

(c) what is its present capital?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Surcharge representing the difference between the statutory selling prices and retention prices of iron and steel.

(b) To subsidise the imported iron and steel, handling and incidental charges under TCA Programme, payments to re-rollers and meeting the cost of Price and Accounts Division Organisation.

(c) The Equalisation Fund is part of the Consolidated Fund.

Salarjung Museum

*347. { **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:
Shri Agadi.
Shri Siddananjappa

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether Government's consideration of the proposal to take over Salarjung Museum in Hyderabad and develop it as a National Museum and Library has been completed,

(b) if so, decision taken in the matter,

(c) whether Government have taken over the Museum and the Library, and

(d) what is the financial implication of this proposal?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Museum and the Library were taken over by the Government of India with effect from 2nd December, 1958, pending the orders of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The proposal is likely to involve a capital expenditure of about Rs. 10 lakhs by the Government of India on the construction of a new building for the Museum; and a recurring expenditure of about Rs. 3 lakhs per annum on the administration of the Museum.

Steel Re-Rolling Mills in Kerala

*348. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 468 on the 2nd December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the proposal for setting up of steel re-rolling mills in Kerala has been considered; and

(b) if so, the nature of decision taken?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) It has been decided that one steel re-rolling mill be set up in Kerala. The details of the proposal are still under consideration in consultation with the State Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Election Commission Report

149. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Osman Ali Khan:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the report submitted by the Election Commission;

(b) if so, with what result; and

(c) whether any, and if so what steps have been taken to bring forward legislation to give effect to the suggestions made by the Election Commission?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) to (c). The various suggestions made by the Election Commission in their Report on the Second General Elections in India in 1957 are under consideration of the Government and it will take some time before the Gov-

ernment are able to arrive at decisions thereon.

केन्द्रीय मद्य निषेध समिति

*३५०. { **श्री सरजू पाण्डे :**
श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री बी० चं० शर्मा :
श्री पांगरकर :

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री २४ नवम्बर, १९५८ के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या १८४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय मद्य निषेध समिति नियुक्त करने के बारे में निर्णय कर लिया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका मुख्य कार्य क्या होगा ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) यह कब तक स्थापित होगी ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्री (श्री गौ० ब० पन्त) : (क) से (घ). इस मामले पर नेशनल डेवलपमेंट कौंसिल की अगली बैठक में राज्यों के नुमाइन्दों के साथ बातचीत करने का विचार है ।

Conference of Asian Archaeologists

*351. { **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri Muhammed Elias:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken to convene a conference in India of Asian Archaeologists as recommended by the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology at its last meeting?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): It is desired to convene the Conference in 1961-62 so that it may