

In addition there are also about 650 chassis held in Depots which are a legacy from the last war, awaiting body building. The question of disposal of these chassis along with other pre-48 surplus vehicles is under consideration of Government.

(c) and (d). Every possible care is taken to look after the chassis in their storage and hence there is very little deterioration in storage.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as it is available.

Double Taxation

*492. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently negotiated an agreement with the United Kingdom regarding relief from double taxation of income in the two countries;

(b) if so, the nature of the agreement?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The position regarding the stage of negotiations with the United Kingdom has been furnished in the statement laid on the Table of the House on 13th August, 1958 in reply to Starred Question No. 94. There has been no further progress in the matter.

Bidi Industry

*493. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Bidi Manufacturers, private or co-operatives, regarding the unhealthy competition from low class cigarettes; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to remedy the situation in order to give protection to the Bidi Industry?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) Yes Sir.

(b). In Government's opinion the contention of the petitioners that because of an excise duty there is unhealthy competition between biris and low class cigarettes is misconceived as the total incidence of excise duty on cheaper cigarettes is much higher than that on hand-made biris.

Legal aid to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*494. { Shri M. E. Krishna:
Shri Siddiah:
Shri F. G. Deb:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Governments have taken advantage of the free legal assistance scheme for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) what is the amount so far disbursed by the Government of India to different States for providing such free legal assistance?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Aiva): (a) and (b). A statement showing the States which have taken Central assistance for these schemes and the amounts sanctioned to each during 1956-57 and 1957-58 and amounts proposed to be sanctioned during 1958-59 for legal assistance to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 135].

Scholarships

*495. Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to reduce the ratio of overseas scholarships for humanities, science and technology in 1959-60; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and in what proportion?