

(b) and (c). The following important suggestions have been made:

(i) It should be permissible to appoint Inspector of Police also as Special Police Officer under the Act.

(ii) The mandatory provision for the presence of a woman witness of the locality for search without warrant under subsection (1) of Section 15, may be removed.

(d) The suggestions are under consideration.

Rihand Dam Project

*1142. **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) what is the result of the consideration by the Central Zonal Council of the question of distribution of power generated from the Rihand Project between Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) by what time this matter is expected to be resolved?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). The matter has been included as an item in the agenda of the next meeting of the Central Zonal Council which is expected to be held in the near future.

Tripura Territorial Council Accounts

*1143. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the accounts of the Tripura Territorial Council have been audited; and

(b) if so, whether the audit report would be published?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) The Tripura Territorial Council is a body corporate and its accounts are audited by the Accountant General, Assam. It has been ascertained from the Council that its accounts for the period from the 18th September, 1957, to the 31st

May, 1958, were audited last year and the accounts for the period from the 1st June, 1958, to the 30th November, 1959, are at present under audit.

(b) It is for the Council to decide whether the audit reports should be published or not.

Foreign Exchange

*1144. **Shri Rameshwar Tanti:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the question of relaxing foreign exchange restrictions to encourage travel by Indian tourists; and

(b) if so, what is the decision of the Government in this regard?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Disease in Paddy Fields of Andaman

*1145. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the Andamans stem borer had attacked a large area in the best paddy producing region in the Port Blair area during the last year and this year;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of damage to paddy crop; and

(c) the action taken by Government to control the spread of the disease?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) An area of 93 acres during the last year and 108 acres this year was attacked by stem borer.

(b) It is not possible to make estimate of damage at present as paddy crop is still growing.

(c) A plant protection scheme is already in operation under the second five year plan to control infestation of

agricultural crops by pests. Under this scheme pesticides are supplied to cultivators at 50 per cent. of the cost price and equipment such as sprayers and dusters are made available to them on loan. Technical advice is also rendered free of charge to the cultivators. The services of plant protection workers for spraying and dusting of crops are also available to cultivators free of charge.

Pinto and Rotary Oil Mills

*1146. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the revising of the compounding rate for the pinto and rotary oil mills;

(b) if so, in what form;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether representations have been received from organisations of oil mill-owners for revising the compounded levy scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a), (b) and (d). Yes, Sir. Several representations have been received from organisations of oil mill-owners for revising the compounded levy scheme, and the whole question, therefore, is under active examination of the Government. As soon as a final decision is taken, the revised scheme will be duly notified.

(c) Does not arise.

Manufacture of Precision Instruments

*1147. **Shri N. M. Deb:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Government have any plan for manufacturing precision instruments for ensuring self-sufficiency for defence needs?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): The Ordnance Factories are already manufacturing or developing the manufacture of a large number of precision instruments, Service requirements of which are si-

gnificant. Further plans for expanding the capacity in Ordnance Factories for instrument manufacture are under consideration.

Mineral Exploration in Orissa

*1148. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have approached the Government of India for any financial assistance to explore the mining prospects in the State;

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been forwarded by the Orissa Government; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Export of Scrap

*1149. { **Shri Nagi Reddy:**
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

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

(a) what has been the effect in terms of export of barter export policy in relation to scrap; and

(b) whether Government propose to regularise the export of scrap on barter basis?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The export of scrap has considerably increased.

(b) There is no proposal to export scrap only on barter basis.

हिन्दी प्रसिद्धि

*११४०. { श्री मोहन स्वल्प :
रेट गोविन्द दास :
श्रीमती शकुन्तला देवी :
श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री

क्या मह-कार्य मंत्री १० सितम्बर, १९४७ के अंतरांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६३०