

have already been prepared and included in the tender for main pipeline construction. 208 miles of route of line has been marked. Notification under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act of 1894 has been issued for land upto 325 miles and for the entire land in Bihar (from about 570th mile to the 720th mile). Tenders for main pipeline construction, pumps, diesel engines and generating sets have been received and are under consideration. Drawings for major industrial buildings and for foundation work have been prepared. By the end of December, 1959 about 18,810 tons of line pipe was despatched from U.K.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government exercises vigilance over the work of the company through the agency of two Directors nominated by the Government of India. The result of this arrangement has been satisfactory.

Detention of an American Newsman by Chinese

*470. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an incident which occurred at the World Agricultural Fair on the 8th February, 1960, in which an American newsman is alleged to have been detained by Chinese officials at the Chinese Pavilion;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard: and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) to (c). On the 8th February 1960, the Chinese authorities in-charge of the Chinese Pavilion in the World Agriculture Fair objected to an American tourist taking photographs of their demonstration staff inside their Pavilion. The matter was reported to the Fair Security Officer and was amicably settled on the Ame-

rican tourist agreeing to destroy the film. No complaint was lodged with the police.

Pink Diamond

*472. **Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a fabulous Pink Diamond, belonging to an Indian Prince, has been offered for sale in London; and

(b) if so, why it was allowed to be taken out of the country?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The Government have no official information on this point. A report, however, appeared in the Press a few days ago that a Pink Diamond probably of Indian origin weighing 34.64 carats will be offered for sale in London on the 17th March, 1960.

(b) The Government of India have no information to show that the diamond in question was exported out of India.

Free Legal Aid to the Poor

*473. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shrimati Ha Palchoudhuri:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Siddiah:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1002 on the 17th December, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the scheme for providing free legal aid to the poor in the country has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) The scheme is being finalised.

(b) Does not arise.