Removal of Ugly Statues

*1467. Shrimati Laxmi Bai: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of India have taken any steps to prevent the erection of ugly looking and inartistic statues of national leaders; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar); (a) and (b). The matter is entirely one for the State Governments and Local Bodies. So far as Central Government is concerned an Advisory Committee has been set up to advise the Government on the installation statues at suitable places in Delhi.

Backward Classes

*1468. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Hume Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken any action to determine the precise criteria for the classification of Backward Classes in India; and
 - (b) if so, the progress made so far?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have decided to hold ad hoc survey on an all-India basis for the purpose. This is being conducted by the Deputy Registrar General The survey is already in progress in West Bengal and preparations have been made to work in Madras, Bombay and Uttar Pradesh.

Pakistani Nationals in India

*1469. Shri Naldurgker: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that nearly 13,000 Pakistanı Nationals, are stayıng on in U.P. in spite of the expiry of their Vises:

(b) whether the Government of U.P. have sought any advice from the Central Government on the subject; and

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(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as it is available.

Enquiry Committee on the Banaras Hindu University

*1470. Shrl Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

- (a) the grounds on which an Enquiry Committee has been appointed by the Visitor under sub-section (2) of Section 5 of the Banaras Hindu University Act, 1915 as amended 1951:
- (b) whether a notice under subsection (3) of Section 5 of the Banaras Hindu University Act, 1915, of the intention to cause an enquiry to be made was given by Government to the University before the appointment of the said Enquiry Committee; and
- (c) if so, whether a copy of the letter giving such notice will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha (See Appendix IV. annexure No. 41).

Admissions in Delhi Schools

Shri D. C. Sharma: *1472. | Shri A. K. Gopalan: Shri Kodiyan: Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state what steps have been taken so far to remove the difficulty of school-going children of Delhi who are not able to get admissions in any educational institution?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): The Implementation Committee on admission to schools in Delhi, which was appointed by the Chief Commissioner. Delhi, has recommended opening of schools at various levels viz., Primary, Middle and Higher Secondary. 34 Government Middle and Higher Secondary Schools and 39 Primary Schools, opened by various local bodies, have started functioning from July 15th, 1957 onwards.

Housing in Flood Affected Areas

*1473. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have undertaken the responsibility of financing the construction of houses in rural areas which have been devastated by floods;
- (b) if so, the States whose schemes have been approved and the amount of aid given to each of them; and
- (c) the estimated amount expected to be spent for working out the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat); (a) to (c). Under the existing pattern of Central assistance to States on account of natural calamities (e.g. floods), an expenditure on repairs upto Rs. 300 per house is eligible as an item of gratuitous relief. Central Government meets 50 per cent of such gratuitous relief expenditure upto Rs. 2 crores and 75 per cent. when the expenditure exceeds Rs. 2 crores. There is no Central responsibility for financing any fresh construction of houses. In the scheme for village housing sanctioned by the Ministry of W.H. & S. dated 14-8-57, however, it has been provided inter alia, that villages which are situated in the flood-affected areas and are proposed to be re-built on sites free from the danger of floods may receive special consideration subject to their fulfilling the prescribed conditions.

Discovery of Stone and Copper Culture near Poons

*1474. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that traces of Stone and Copper Culture have been found on the banks of the Mula-Mutha river in Poona; and
- (b) whether these findings give proof of the existence of Stone and Copper culture by the banks of the river running from Poona to Chitaldrug?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali); (a) Stone Age tools have been found in the gravel—bed of the Mula Mutha river at Poona, while remnants of the Chalcolithic Culture have been found on the bank of Bhima river, about 11 miles North of Poona, at a place called Koregaon.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Construction of a Steel Plant

*1475. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the American firm "Koppers" offered terms and conditions to construct a steel plant in this country in the year 1949 at a cost of Rs. 50 crores within two years; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for rejecting the ofter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir. Messrs. Koppers Co. Inc. of the United States of America were one of the three Consultants who were appointed by the Government of India in 1948 to make a preliminary survey and prepare a scheme for the establishment of a steel plant. They estimated that it would cost approximately Rs 50 crores for a plant with a capacity of 500,000 tons of ingot steel.

(b) Does not arise.