

system of carrying nightsoil on heads in baskets?

**Shrimati Alva:** Recommendations have been made in the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1955, but I am not aware of the statement that my hon. friend has made.

**Shri B. C. Mullick:** May I know why one particular community, namely, the Scheduled Castes is bound to perform this particular job of scavenging which creates always an idea of high castes and low castes?

**Mr. Speaker:** He need not go into the question. Everybody is agreed that nobody ought to do this.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** The question is this: whether any steps have been taken, besides merely sending a recommendation. That is the purpose of the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Has any step been taken by the Central Government?

**Shrimati Alva:** No, Sir. We have asked the States to implement this and we have got replies from some States that they are doing so.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question No. 1730 is renumbered as 1763. Shri Sanganna.

**Shri Sanganna:** 1731.

#### **Buildings at Dundas Point, Nicobar Islands**

\*1763. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Sardar A. S. Saigal:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several buildings at Dundas Point (Port Blair) were recently sold to a monopoly firm of Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, what were the recorded value of those buildings;

(c) at what price they were sold to the monopoly firm;

(d) whether it is also true that three plots of land at Dundas Point measuring several acres have also been given to that monopoly firm free of cost; and

(e) if so, for what purpose?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** (a) Nine old and dilapidated buildings at Dundas Point were sold to M/s. Akoojee Jadwet & Co., who do not hold any monopoly for trade in Nicobar Islands.

(b) & (c). Although the recorded book value of these buildings was Rs. 40,115/- the P.W.D. assessed their market value at Rs. 2,990/-. They were sold for Rs. 3,200/-.

(d) Three plots of land measuring about 8 acres were allotted to M/s. Akoojee Jadwet & Co., on usual terms under the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Land Tenure) Regulation, 1926.

(e) For setting up an oil mill.

**Shri Sanganna:** I am not concerned with the answer that has just now been read out.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal:** I want to put a supplementary on this answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** 1730 has not been called. It has been renumbered as 1763.

**An Hon. Member:** But the reply has been given.

**Mr. Speaker:** I did not ask for the reply to be given. 1730 has not been called. It has been struck off in my copy here and renumbered as Starred Question No. 1763. I understand that this has been done because he cannot have too many questions in the same round. I passed over this question and called Shri Sanganna. He just told me that he is not concerned with it. Why did he not say "1731"?

**Shrimati A. Kale:** He said "1731".

**Mr. Speaker:** If he said it, why did the hon. Deputy Minister answer? Shri Sanganna.