

Sardar Majithia: That is the policy of the Government.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what are the attempts being made in this direction?

Sardar Majithia: In the first instance, we procure things which are available here, provided they come up to the standard.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the quantity that is purchased is purchased directly by the Ministry concerned, or through some private agency?

Sardar Majithia: I require notice for that.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether Government have received any complaint from the Canteen Stores Department that Indian manufactured tinned-fruits and jams are inferior in quality to imported ones and that most of the stocks have been spoiled due to long storage?

Sardar Majithia: Not to my knowledge.

EDUCATIONAL SCHEMES IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

*502. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the examination of the report of the officer on special duty deputed to survey the existing educational facilities in the Islands of Andamans and Nicobar has been completed; and

(b) if so, whether, any definite schemes for educational development in these areas have been prepared?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). Yes. The details of the schemes are being worked out by the Chief Commissioner.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Who was the officer and what were his chief recommendations?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: In 1951 Mr. Bhagwad Prasad, Assistant Director of Education, Bihar State, was deputed by us to visit the Andamans and make recommendations. As a result, he has put forward certain recommendations, and a part of them has been accepted by the Chief Commissioner of the Andamans.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is his report only planned to cover a year or two, or does it cover the period of the Five Year Plan?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The recommendations as such do not have much bearing on the Five Year Plan, but they have been put forward for a period of four years.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the sum to be spent in 1952-53?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Rs. 35,000 has been provided in the budget for the current financial year.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Does this plan include compulsory primary education?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No. Sir.

Shri Punnoose: May I know the percentage of literacy in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware of it just now.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know the ratio between the percentage of school-going children and children of school-going age?

Mr. Speaker: How can he say that, when he has said that he does not know the percentage of literacy there?

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if the system of education that would be introduced there would be basic or ordinary primary type?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Basic education.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

SEIZURE OF GOLD

*503. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the quantity of gold seized by the customs authorities in India during the first half of the financial year 1952-53?

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): A quantity of 6,574 (Six thousand, five hundred and seventy four) tolas of gold was seized by the Customs authorities during the first half of the financial year 1952-53.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Have any new measures been taken by the Government to prevent the smuggling of gold?

Shri Tyagi: The import or export of gold is an offence. The gold is being imported mostly from French and Portuguese possessions. Arrangements have been made for stopping the smuggling. Surveillance at the ports is avoided by the gold being