

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
WASTE LANDS IN MAHARANI AND CHANKAP
AREAS

*1107. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large tracts of land, remain waste in Maharani and Chankap areas for want of water;

(b) whether it is a fact that the same land can be irrigated if the water of Maharani and Chankap Chara is utilised; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to bring these lands under cultivation?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) to (c). It is reported that some of these areas remain waste during winter for want of water. Proposals for digging wells and tanks are being examined.

UPLIFT OF TRIBES IN TRIPURA

*1108. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether there has been any allocation from the Tribal Welfare Fund for uplift of tribal people in Tripura?

(b) If so, how much and how and when will the amount be utilised?

(c) Is there any proposal to give representation to the Tribes from Tripura on the Central Tribal Welfare Committee?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). During the year 1952-53 a provision of Rs. 3 lakhs has been sanctioned for the welfare of tribal people in Tripura. A provision of Rs. 5 lakhs has been made for the welfare of the tribal people in Tripura for 1953-54. The schemes sanctioned include productive irrigation works, educational advancement, improvement in village roads and anti-malaria schemes.

(c) No.

EDUCATION IN TRIPURA

*1109. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** (a) will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether Government are aware that Tribal people in Tripura have got their own dialect though they have to receive their education through Vernacular?

(b) Are Government aware that it is very difficult for the Tribal minor boys in Primary Schools to get instruction from teachers who do not know the Tribal language?

(c) Do Government propose to appoint at least one Tribal language knowing teacher in every primary school of the Tribal Areas?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes. Tribal people have got their different dialects, but no script. In the absence of a common script, Bengali, the Vernacular of the area, forms the medium of instruction.

(b) This difficulty is overcome by giving the teachers a working knowledge in the tribal dialect of the pupils during the period of initial training, so that in the basic stage the teachers use the dialect for explanation whenever necessary.

(c) Tribal teachers, provided they possess the minimum educational qualifications, are always preferred for employment in tribal schools.

WORKING OF NEW MINES

802. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new mines are being worked under Mineral Concession Rules, 1949; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of these Rules?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) The Mineral Concession Rules 1949 regulate the grant of certificates of approval, prospecting licences and mining leases for minerals other than petroleum and natural gas. The rules extend to the whole of India except the State of Jammu & Kashmir and came into force on the 25th October, 1949. No mineral concessions can be granted after that date otherwise than in accordance with the Mineral Concession Rules and any concessions granted contrary to the provisions of those rules are void.

(b) Copies of the Mineral Concession Rules are already available in the Library of the House.