

(d) What is the nature of the subjects that are expected to be taught to students in this School?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) The details are being worked out and the amount of the grant has not yet been decided.

(b) Yes.

(c) The School will provide facilities for the training of engineers, architects and others engaged in town planning work in the States.

(d) A statement giving the details of the courses is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 52]

ARMY TRAINING CENTRES

***931. Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state how many Army Training Centres from the Punjab have been amalgamated with other Training Centres?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): The following two regimental centres have been amalgamated:—

(i) Sikh Light Infantry Regimental Centre which was located at Ferozepore has been amalgamated with the Punjab Regimental Centre at Meerut.

(ii) 4 Gorkha Rifle Regimental Centre which was located at Bakloh, has been amalgamated with 1 Gorkha Rifle Regimental Centre at Dharamsala. The amalgamated centre is known as 14 Gorkha Training Centre and is located at Dharamsala.

SCHOOL OF TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

***932. Shri Buchh Kotah:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to open at Delhi a school of town and regional planning; and

(b) if so, when it will be opened?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Government propose to establish a School of Town and Regional Planning in Delhi as a joint enterprise of the Government and the Institute of Town Planners.

(b) Details are being worked out. It is not possible at this stage to give a definite indication of the date or time when the School will start functioning.

RECRUITING CENTRES FOR I.A.F. IN BIHAR

***933. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 1275 asked on the 29th April, 1953 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Recruiting Centres at Calcutta and Kanpur are far from Bihar and that in Bihar, therefore there are no proper facilities for recruitment to the I.A.F.;

(b) whether Government have considered the desirability of opening a separate Regional Recruiting Centre for I.A.F. in Bihar; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to consider this question?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Although there are no I.A.F. Recruiting Centres in Bihar, the I.A.F. Recruiting Officers visit the area periodically.

(b) and (c). Having regard to the funds available it is not possible to open a Centre in each state and therefore centres are established on a zonal basis. These Centres utilise the "Army Recruiting" Centres within their zone. Bihar has three such Army recruiting Centres. Government consider that, in the circumstances, this is the best arrangement possible.

SALES TAX

***934. Dr. J. N. Parekh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether a complex situation has arisen out of a recent judgment of

Supreme Court on the definition of the word 'Sale';

(b) whether Government are aware of the great hardship the mercantile community of different States is put to with regard to Sales Tax owing to the attitude of various State Governments;

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum from mercantile community of various States; and

(d) what steps Government propose to remedy this situation?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The Government of India are aware of the situation that has arisen due to the interpretation, recently given by the Supreme Court, of Clauses (1) and (2) of Article 286 relating to levy of sales tax on inter-state transactions.

(b) Government is aware that following the judgment some State Governments issued notices for the recovery of the tax from merchants in other States supplying goods for consumption in their own States, including arrears. It has been represented to Government that the demand for arrear payment is causing hardship to the merchants.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government of India are in correspondence with the State Governments in the matter and it is proposed to convene shortly a meeting of the "Officials Committee", constituted in the last Finance Ministers Conference in order to examine and consider all aspects of the matter.

ARREST OF SHRI MATHAI MANJURAN

*935. **Shri Punnoose:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Shri Mathai Manjuran, a member of the Council of States, has been arrested while leading a deputation to the Minister for Planning, Government of India, at Trichur in Travancore Cochin State?

(b) If so, what were the demands of the deputationists?

(c) What were the reasons for the arrest of the M.C. concerned?

(d) What steps do Government propose to take for the release of the arrested persons and redressal of the grievances of the people?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) to (d). Shri Mathai Manjuran and five others were arrested on the 9th August on a charge of participating in a procession at Trichur in contravention of a prohibitory order issued by the District Magistrate against the taking out of processions and staging demonstrations within a radius of one furlong from "Ramani-layam" the rest house, where Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda, Minister of Planning, was staying for rest and medical treatment. The processionists demanded a personal audience with Shri Nanda for the purpose of presenting a memorandum about introduction of compulsory procurement of excess paddy and reduction of the price of the rice ration, backed up by the threat of direct action. The prohibitory order was considered necessary because Shri Nanda's medical attendant had strictly enjoined complete rest.

Shri Manjuran and the five others who were arrested with him are being prosecuted under the Police Act on the charge of contravening a ban imposed by the District Magistrate, Trichur. The demands which they were bent upon presenting to Shri Nanda personally are being looked into by the State Government.

CHARGES AGAINST FORMER SECRETARY, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTRY

*936. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to reply to starred question No. 325 given on 10th August, 1953 and state:

(a) the advice that was tendered by the Union Public Service Commission in connection with charges of corruption and professional misconduct against the former Secretary of the Commerce and Industry Ministry; and