

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 24.]

PLANS OF NATIONAL LABORATORIES

180. Prof. D. C. Sharma: (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state the names of the architectural firms or the architects who prepared the plans for the different national laboratories?

(b) What is the style of these buildings?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 25.]

(b) Modern financial style.

CULTURAL REPRESENTATIVES

181. Prof. D. C. Sharma: (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the names of the countries where India maintains her cultural representatives?

(b) What are the functions of these representatives?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) India maintains officers at Rome and Kabul designated as Cultural Attaches. All Indian Missions abroad, however, do cultural work.

(b) The main function of the Cultural Attaches is to promote better understanding of Indian culture through various activities such as organisation of art exhibitions, musical and dramatic performances, lectures, presentation of books and other media of publicity.

PURCHASE OF STORES AND EQUIPMENT

183. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocations under Defence Services estimates for the purchase of stores and equipment since the year 1947, year by year;

(b) the amount spent for purchase of stores and equipment abroad since 1947, year by year;

(c) the amount spent for purchase of stores and equipment in India since 1947, year by year, giving separately the amounts for (i) items produced by Government ordnance factories, (ii) items of Indian manufacture other than of Government ordnance factories and (iii) items of foreign manufacture partly or fully, but procured in India by the Defence Ministry; and

(d) the reasons for the increase, if any, in allocations for stores and equipment for the last three years?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House, in respect of year 1948-49 to 1953-54. As regards the information relating to the year 1947-48, the figures for the post-partition period are not readily available. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 26.]

The figures for the whole year represent the expenditure for 4½ months of undivided India and for 7½ months of partitioned India and hence are not comparable with the subsequent figures for India only.

(d) The main reasons are:

(i) expansion in Navy and Air Force;

(ii) depletion of War stocks accumulated earlier;

(iii) replacement of old vehicles.

**DEFENCE ORDNANCE AND CLOTHING
FACTORIES**

184. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the Defence Ordnance and Clothing factories from 1947-48 to 1952-53, year by year;

(b) the total number of employees employed by these factories year by year from 1947 to 1953;

(c) the main reasons for the decrease, if any, of the number of employees over the period; and

(d) the main reasons for the increase, if any, in the expenditure over the period?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a)—

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1947-48 (Post Partition)	249
1948-49	916
1949-50	1532
1950-51	1742
1951-52	3154
1952-53	2092
(b)	
1947	40,524
1948	51,436
1949	57,251
1950	65,645
1951	68,889
1952	70,040
1953	69,641

(c) There has been no decrease, except for a fall in the labour strength by 1,000 (approximately) in 1953. The reason for this is a reduction in certain orders placed on Ordnance Factories by the Army.

(d) Main reasons for increase in expenditure are:—

(i) increased out-turn following the programme to manufacture a larger proportion of

war-like stores within the country.

(ii) expenditure on experimental work carried out in connection with the manufacture of new stores, which previously were imported;

(iii) Opening of new factories and restarting of factories which had been put on a care and maintenance basis earlier.

(iv) Rise in prices of raw materials.

(v) Overhaul and replacement of plant which was subjected to heavy wear during the war.

(vi) Revision of pay scales of labour following the recommendations of the Pay Commission.

**BANKING LIQUIDATION INQUIRY
COMMITTEE**

185. Shri S. C. Samanta: (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the Banking Liquidation Inquiry Committee's Report has been considered and decisions taken?

(b) If so, what are the decisions taken?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government have generally accepted the recommendations with modifications found necessary, on examination. The State Governments have been requested to implement recommendations pertaining to them which require administrative action only, while a Bill is proposed to be introduced in Parliament during this session for implementation of recommendations requiring legislation.

**GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS' VISIT TO U. K.
AND WESTERN EUROPE**

186. Shri Gopala Rao: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number, names and designations of Government officials who