

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) The hill areas of Manipur are administered in accordance with the provisions of the Manipur State Hill Peoples (Administration) Regulation, 1947 as adapted subsequently.

(b) I would invite attention to the reply given to Starred Question No. 164 by Shri L. J. Singh on 5th August, 1953.

SMUGGLING

***616. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling is being carried on from the French Settlements in India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent it?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) From all accounts, I fear, Sir, there is still a good deal of smuggling into India from the French Settlements.

(b) The following are the more important measures taken to prevent smuggling:

(1) Customs preventive patrols on the frontier by land and sea have been strengthened; catamarans fitted with outboard motors are used now for sea patrols, but sea-going launches are expected to be supplied shortly.

(2) Barbed wire fencing has been erected on the vulnerable points of the Pondicherry and Karikal frontiers.

(3) Co-operation of the State Government Officers operating on the border has been enlisted.

(4) Search of passengers and rummage of trains and vehicles are being made more frequently and thoroughly.

STRIKE IN DEFENCE INSTALLATION

***617. Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the Government of India are reconsidering the grievances of the Defence Employees after the token strike of the 30th June 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): There can be no question of reconsidering the grievances as a result of the token strike. Some of the grievances which were said to be the cause of the strike were examined very fully before the strike and certain decisions were taken. No new arguments have been put forward which justify a reconsideration. There are, however, a number of other matters which have been under the consideration of Government for sometime and I am glad to say that many of them are in the process of being finalised.

OFFICERS SENT ABROAD

***618. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the number of officers of the Central Secretariat who went abroad during the financial year 1952-53 on various scholarships granted by the United States?

(b) How many officers are at present abroad on such scholarships?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) 46.

(b) 21.

SMUGGLING

***619. Shri Muniswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the scheme for employing fast sea-going launches and jeeps equipped with wireless sets, has been implemented to check smuggling that is being carried on in some parts of the country?

(b) How far this method has proved successful?

(c) If so, what are the ways in which the public can co-operate in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The scheme referred to by the Hon'ble Member has not yet been fully implemented. While most of the jeeps and certain other items of equipment which can be more readily bought have been