

UNTOUCHABILITY

*616. **Shri N. A. Borkar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amount actually spent so far on the removal of untouchability in the Madhya Pradesh State out of the amount allotted by the Government of India for this purpose; and

(b) whether any report regarding the work done has been received by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The State Government have intimated that they have spent Rs. 5,133/- out of the grant paid by the Government of India during the financial year 1953-54 which was the 1st year when Central grants were made. The amount actually sanctioned by the Government of India was, however Rs. 45,200/- on the basis of total estimated expenditure at that time. This year a ceiling of Rs. 2.10 lakhs has been allotted to the Madhya Pradesh Government out of which a sum of Rs. 1.5 lakhs has already been placed at their disposal. A report on the work done by the State Government and the amount actually spent out of the fund sanctioned during this year is awaited.

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

*617. **Lala Achint Ram:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amount of money which the University Grants Commission has received in 1953-54 and in 1954-55, from the Government of India?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): The amounts are:

(i) 1953-54	Rs. 86,44,346/-/-.
(ii) 1954-55 (to-date)	Rs. 30,29,051/14/3.

RETRENCHMENT IN ORDNANCE DEPOTS

*618. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been or is likely to be any retrenchment in the

Ordnance Depot establishments during 1954-55;

(b) if so, what is the number of workers retrenched in each Depot, trade-wise;

(c) the reasons for the retrenchment; and

(d) the steps taken to provide alternative employment to the retrenched staff and the number of workers so provided?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 27.]

(c) The main reasons for retrenchment are reduction of workload, disbandment of Depots and replacement of civilians employed in lieu of combatants on the latter being available.

(d) The Ministry of Defence has a scheme whereby personnel rendered surplus in one Defence installation are adjusted against deficiencies in other Defence establishments. Every effort is made to provide alternative employment to the personnel who are rendered surplus, and only those personnel for whom no alternative employment can be found are actually retrenched. Out of the 857 persons retrenched, 511 have been provided with alternative jobs.

EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

*619. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government sponsored regional educational seminars under the Ford Foundation Scheme held so far;

(b) the nature of subjects discussed in these seminars;

(c) the important recommendations made to Government by these seminars; and

(d) the steps, if any, taken to give effect to these recommendations?