The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): 1,068 scholarships involving an expenditure of Rs. 5,60,101 upto the year 1953-54

BHARAT ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY

*969. Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

- (a) the expenditure incurred on the Bharat Electronic Industry in India upto 31st March, 1954;
- (b) the progress of the work and when it is expected that the factory will start operation;
- (c) the number of foreign experts who are working on it and their emoluments paid upto 31st March, 1954; and
- (d) by what time the training schools and the research section will be ready and functioning?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra); (a) Rs. 14 lakhs (approx).

- (b) The Company was registered under the Indian Companies Act in April 1954. The construction of workshop buildings has commenced and necessary arrangements for the purchase of machinery required for the first phase of production have been made. Production is likely to commence by June 1956.
- (c) No foreign technicians have yet been employed.
- (d) The training school will be established by the end of 1954. The research section is likely to start functioning early in 1957.

FINANCIAL ISSUES BETWEEN INDIA AND FAKISTAN

*970. Shri Dabhi: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 2492, asked on the 14th

May, 1954 and state when he is likely to resume his negotiations with the Finance Minister of Pakistan on the financial issues outstanding between India and Pakistan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I hope to meet the Finance Minister of Pakistan this month in Washington and shall find out what the prospects of resuming the negotiations are.

RESEARCH IN TRAINING COLLEGES

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

- (a) the special features of the programmes drawn up for encouraging training colleges to undertake research on specific problems;
- (b) whether any research work of this nature has been started in any of the States;
- (c) if so, where and what is the nature of research started; and
- (d) the total amount that the Central Government have allotted for the purpose?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 20]

PROSPECTING OF PETROLEUM

*972. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state what progress has been made so far in the matter of prospecting of petroleum by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company in Bengal in pursuance of the agreement with the Government of India?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): It is reported that a small party of technicians has been sent to undertake a rapid reconnaissance tour in the areas lying on both the banks of the river Hooghly.