

responsible for the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling. The Principal, the Director of Field Training and Instructor Guides have been appointed for the Institute. They have all recently undergone a short course of training in Switzerland.

The West Bengal Government have acquired on rent a building for the Institute at Darjeeling pending the construction of its own buildings. The equipment required for the Institute, which had been ordered from abroad, is on its way to India. The first course is expected to commence by the end of October 1954.

**श्री भक्त वरान :** क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस पर्वतारोहण संस्था के लिये कोई पाठ्यक्रम निश्चित कर दिया गया है, और यदि कर दिया गया है, तो क्या वह सदन के पटल पर रक्खा जायगा ?

**Mr. Speaker:** Will he place on the Table of the House the curriculum, if any, for this?

**Sardar Majithia:** About the syllabus, they will be given training in various subjects, geography, geology etc. I will place the syllabus on the Table of the House.

#### ARTIFICIAL RAINS

\*1280. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that showers have occurred in and around Patna in July, 1954, as a result of cloud-seeding by means of hydrogen-filled balloons; and

(b) if so, whether such rains could be produced over wider areas?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) Government have no reliable data on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** The Deputy Minister said that the Government had no reliable data on the matter. May I know what sort of data the Government is having and whether he is in a position to disclose that?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** In a general way, I may state that the whole subject of artificial rain-making is in a very very experimental stage and no conclusive results have been arrived at by the scientists on which data can be established.

I may, in this connection, state or quote one sentence of the world Meteorological Organisation technical note which has been recently published.

"The operations which have so far been carried out have produced results that could be termed, at best, inconclusive; neither a complete failure of the methods employed nor the certainty of getting substantially increased rainfall have been demonstrated."

#### EXPORT DUTY IN HYDERABAD

\*1284. **Diwan Raghavendra Rao:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 102 asked on the 18th February, 1954 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to give further extension to the system of levying export duty in the Hyderabad State; and

(b) if so, the number of years for which the extension is proposed to be given?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

**Diwan Raghavendra Rao:** May I know whether the Government have received representations from border area in order to stop this levying of export duty because of the increase of the unsocial element in that area?

**Dr. Katju:** I have received no such reports.