

Dr. M. M. Das: We have given grants for the current year only—as I have said—for 1954-55. So, after the end of the financial year, we will ask for the implementation reports of these schemes, how far they have been able to implement the schemes.

Shri A. M. Thomas: The question refers to the grant specifically made to Travancore-Cochin. May I enquire whether Hindi has been made a compulsory subject in the secondary schools in Travancore-Cochin?

Dr. M. M. Das: I cannot commit myself, but so far as my information goes, Hindi has been made a compulsory subject in the secondary schools there.

SCIENTIFIC LIAISON OFFICER, LONDON

*725. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the Status of the Scientific Liaison Officer in the United Kingdom; and

(b) the nature of Liaison work undertaken by him during 1954 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 60.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: The statement discloses that the Indian Scientific Liaison Officer has multifarious duties to perform and his activities have been divided into 12 items out of which "maintained personal contacts," "obtained contacts," and "provided contacts" are listed. May I know whether these functions are to be performed in other countries also—other than U.K.—and which is the officer that performs these functions there?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I hope the answer is specific so far as the United Kingdom is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: In addition to his duties, is he expected to do similar services for other countries also?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as this officer is concerned, I think that the activities of other countries are not included.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I wanted to know whether these functions are performed by any of our officers—be he Adviser to our diplomatic representative or anybody else—in other countries, besides U.K., or not?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I think, in generality, such functions are performed by other officers.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Why is it then that the special officer is appointed in U.K. alone, and in the other countries some other officer is performing the same duties?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: These are not the only duties of this officer, as specified by the hon. Member: for maintaining contacts and obtaining information and all that. Besides these, there are other subjects, especially of giving advice to our Government with regard to scientific affairs and contacting scientists.

HALI SICCA CURRENCY

*726. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether small coins of *Hali Sicca* Currency are still being minted at Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, how long this will continue?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) No, Sir. The minting of small coins of *Hali Sicca* Currency was discontinued in September, 1954.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know what is the total amount of *Hali Sicca* Currency minted in 1954?