

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) Six Professors from abroad are working in the Institute. Their subjects are:—

(i) Civil Engineering (Concrete Technology).

(ii) Hydraulics and Dam construction.

(iii) Mechanical Engineering.

(iv) Architecture and Town Planning.

(v) Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture.

(vi) Workshop Technology.

CONTRIBUTION OF ASSAM

***570. Shrimati Khongmen:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount of money contributed by Assam State to the centre annually out of its income from Tea and Petrol?

(b) What is the total amount of money given to Assam for the year 1951 and the proposed grant to be given for the year 1952?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) No amount of money is contributed by the Assam State to the Centre. I presume the hon. Member is referring to realisations by the Central Government of Excise and Export duties on Tea and Central Excise duty on Motor Spirit. The realisations in Assam on account of excise duty were as follows in 1951-52.

Excise Duty (Rs.)

Tea . . . 2,59,54,000 (The figures for Tea are provisional).

Motor Spirit . . . 1,40,75,000 . . .

Export duties which are collected at ports cannot be related to the products of any particular State, so that it is not possible to say accurately what part of such duties is attributable to products of the State of Assam.

No export duty is leviable on Motor Spirit.

(b) No portion of the Central Excise or Export duties, as such, is payable to any of the State Governments in respect of Tea or Motor Spirit. I, however, place on the Table of the House a statement showing the Central assistance provided to

Assam in 1951-52. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 38].

Proposals regarding Central assistance in 1952-53 are still under consideration.

DECIMALISATION OF COINAGE

***571. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Provisional Government of India in 1947 had given a public assurance that legislation for the decimalisation of coinage, weights and measures was intended to be rapidly passed;

(b) whether it is a fact that a special committee appointed by the Government of India had unanimously recommended early adoption of decimal coinage and the metric system of weights and measures; and

(c) what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken, by Government in regard to this matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) I am not aware of any such assurance having been given by the Provisional Government of India. The Bill providing for decimalisation of coinage, which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly in February 1946, was allowed to lapse, as no progress could be made before the partition of India.

(b) No Committee was appointed by the Government of India to consider the question of decimalisation of coinage. In 1949 the Indian Standards Institution appointed a special committee on weights and measures. The Committee expressed itself in favour of the introduction of metric system of weights and measures by stages. The Committee also recommended the adoption of decimalised currency to preside the introduction of metric system of weights and measures.

(c) On the question of introduction of metric system of weights and measures, I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given on the 18th September, 1951, by the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry to Starred Question No. 257 by Shri Kesava Rao. As regards decimal coinage, the Government of India consider that an enormous amount of preparation will have to be undertaken both by the Central and the State Governments before this could be introduced and this will impose a severe strain on the administrative machinery. It will also

entail similar preparations in the private sector which, it is apprehended, will cause considerable dislocation to trade and business. In the context of the present difficult economic situation, the Government have come to the conclusion that the time is not yet opportune for introducing such a radical change in the coinage system of the country. The question is, however, reviewed by Government periodically.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

*572. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) How many times during the last five years, Geological Survey was carried out in the Districts of Koraput and Phulbani (Orissa);

(b) what were the results of the survey; and

(c) what mineral ores were discovered in each district?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) It is reported by the Director, Geological Survey of India that in three field seasons, viz. 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50, routine geological mapping was undertaken in the Koraput and Phulbani (now known as Boudh) districts. In the field seasons 1950-51 and 1951-52, investigations for zinc in Koraput and tourmaline in Boudh and mineral survey in Boudh subdivision were included in the programme of work but could not be undertaken for want of officers.

(b) and (c). The systematic mapping revealed presence of rock-formations likely to yield graphite, quartz-felspar; quartzites with sillimanite, crystalline limestone, muscovite bearing mica-pegmatites, sandstones, laterites, calcites; biotite and garnet.

EXPORT DUTY ON JUTE

*573. **Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of revenue received in 1951-52 from Export duty on jute and jute-goods; and

(b) what is the fall in revenue after the curtailment of the Export Duty was made?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The total amount of revenue received in 1951-52 from export duty on jute and jute-goods is Rs. 59 crores and 33 lakhs.

(b) Export duty on hessians was reduced from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 750 per ton with effect from the 19th February 1952. On the basis of quantities actually exported after that date an additional Rs. 2.25 crores would have been payable if the Rate of duty had remained unaltered.

SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

100. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state when Government propose to set up the Commission for Secondary Education, as announced by the hon. Minister?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): Steps are already being taken to set up the Commission which is expected to start work some time in October, 1952.

RENEWALS RESERVE FUND

101. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee of experts for evolving a uniform policy for all Ministries for allocating contributions to the Renewals Reserve Fund as recommended by the Public Accounts Committee has been set up; and

(b) whether the Posts and Telegraphs Department have undertaken an examination of the accounts with reference to para. 8 of the Appropriation Accounts, Posts and Telegraphs, as recommended by the Committee.

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) Yes. A Committee has been set up for the purpose, and the report is expected very soon.

AGENCY COMMISSION

102. **Shri S. G. Parikh:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Managing Agents of Companies are under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1913, entitled to certain percentage of profits as agency commission?

(b) Has it come to the notice of Government that some Managing Agents do not charge their commission but voluntarily surrender their commissions to the funds of the companies to strengthen the position of the companies?

(c) Is Government in a position to lay on the Table of the House a list