

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know as to whether any decision has been taken in choosing the language in bilingual areas?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** As I have said, the decisions of the Education Ministers' Conference covers all these matters.

#### UNLICENSED FIRE-ARMS

\*96. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a drive to collect unlicensed fire-arms left in the hands of villagers during the last World War has been launched in the hilly districts of Assam;

(b) if so, how many persons have so far surrendered their unlicensed fire-arms; and

(c) the number of fire-arms which have so far been surrendered to the police?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) to (c). The information has been called for from the Government of Assam and the Adviser to the Governor of Assam, and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** When was this drive launched and how long will it continue?

**Shri Datar:** Information for that very purpose has been called for.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Even that information is not available?

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Is there any proposal to relax the rules for granting licenses to villagers in view of the fact that there has been an increase in crimes?

**Shri Datar:** There has been no such proposal for relaxation. Government are considering whether any amendments to the rules are required.

#### U. S. TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC AID

\*98. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of the United States of

America have revised their schemes of technical and economic aid to India; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the revised schemes?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b). The technical and economic aid to India from the United States is provided pursuant to Agreements signed between the two Governments in December, 1950 and January, 1952 (copies of which are in the Library of the House). The Agreement signed in January 1952 provided that the assistance will be in the form of grant-in-aid and loans in proportions to be agreed to between the two Governments. Uptil 1953-54 the assistance from the United States was on a 100 per cent. grant basis. The pattern of the assistance in the current year i.e., for the fiscal year, 1st July, 1954 to 30th June, 1955, is that a major portion of the development assistance will be in the form of loans and approximately 50 per cent. of the total assistance will be in the shape of surplus agricultural commodities like wheat and cotton.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know what will be the position of unutilised portions of the loans and grants in the previous years—up to March 1953-54?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Those are mostly commitments, that is contracts have been entered into for purchase of material and equipment and so on and I doubt whether there is any unutilised portions to speak of.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** According to the progress report on the Five Year Plan, certain grants are not being utilised owing to delays which are natural when grants are made and the schemes are not ready. I am referring to that position.

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** What I meant was although the money might not have been drawn actually, purchase contracts are made in accordance with agreements arrived at in which case