

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** I take it that the hon. Member is referring to the recommendations for the civilian awards which have recently been instituted and are to be made on the next Republic Day (26th January), 1955. If so, the replies are:

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes; some replies have been received.

(c) No.

#### NATIONAL CADET CORPS

**\*235. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the present strength of N. C. C. in India; and

(b) the names of the States where it is most popular?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) 2,687 Officers and 95,306 Cadets.

(b) If the popularity of the Corps is to be judged by its numerical strength, the following four States top the list each having a strength of more than 10,000:—

1. Punjab.
2. Madhya Pradesh.
3. Bihar.
4. West Bengal.

#### ASSISTANCE FROM UNESCO

**\*237. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Technical Assistance Department of U.N.E.S.C.O. have offered to render assistance to the Government of India to execute several important projects during the year 1954-55; and

(b) if so, the names and nature of the projects which are likely to be assisted by the U.N.E.S.C.O.?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 14.]

#### OTTAWA CONFERENCE

**\*238. Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Ottawa Conference has reported that falling export revenue and threat of inflation have jeopardised the schemes under the Colombo Plan?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** I invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given to Starred Question No. 114 on the 17th November, 1954. Although the report has not yet been published, the discussions at the recent meeting in Ottawa showed that the region as a whole is moving forward, though there have been set-backs in individual countries. The report also makes a reference to the main problems which face the Colombo Plan countries such as the raising of resources for development, foreign exchange difficulties and fluctuations in the prices of export commodities. There was only a passing reference to the threat of inflation when discussing the scope for deficit financing.

#### SURVEY OF HIMALAYAN REGION

**\*240. Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether any step has been taken for the survey of the Himalayan region including its terai from Assam to Himachal Pradesh with a view to develop its natural resources?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** A list of investigations undertaken by the Geological Survey of India in the Sub-Himalayan and Tarai regions of India