

श्री कृष्ण : कुछ प्रिंसिपल्स निर्धारित किए गए हैं।

**Shrimati Sushama Sen:** May I know if Government is considering the abolition of death sentence in our Country since it has been abolished in many of the western countries?

**Shri Datar:** That question is not at present under consideration. That will be considered when the amendment of the Indian Penal Code will be taken up.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know out of these cases that have come before the President how many involve political cases and how many of these political cases were rejected or accepted by the President?

**Shri Datar:** It is very difficult to give the break-up. Political cases generally do not come under this death sentence except in extreme cases and therefore it is not possible to give the break-up.

#### POLITICAL PRISONERS IN MANIPUR

\*1184. **Kumari Annie Mascarene:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the number of political prisoners in Manipur State and the term of their convictions, if any?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** There is no such category of prisoners as 'Political prisoners' in Manipur State. However, if what is meant is the number of persons convicted for offences in connection with the agitation in Manipur, their number was 111 on the 21st February 1955. They were undergoing sentences ranging from less than a month to six months' simple imprisonment. There were, in addition, 31 undertrials.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know for how many of them the punishment was consecutive?

**Shri Datar:** I have not got that information.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know whether they are detained for agitating for a socialistic pattern of society?

**Shri Datar:** That question was just answered by the Prime Minister. The agitation was for the purpose of introduction of a popular Legislative Assembly and Ministry in Manipur State.

**Shrimati Khongmen:** How many of these persons are students?

**Shri Datar:** There are a certain number of students, but I have not got the break-up.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** How many of them are women and how many are in class III?

**Shri Datar:** The number of women is 29. One out of 29 has already been discharged. The remaining 28 are standing the charge.

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** Probably in Manipur State it is the women who function and not men.

#### OIL EXPLOITATION

\*1185. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to carry out a fresh survey of the Brahmaputra Valley for the purpose of oil exploitation;

(b) if so, when that survey work will begin; and

(c) the names of the areas where this survey work will be undertaken?

**The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the basis on which Government give the surveying and prospecting leases to firms.