

(b) the amount of the departmental charges provided in the estimates of those works; and

(c) the actual expenditure incurred on establishment employed on the execution of works in Delhi and New Delhi during the same period?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) to (c). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 15.]

**Shri Gidwani:** In the statement it is said that the actual amount of departmental charges levied and recovered during 1953-54 was Rs. 50,13,900 on the total cost of works of Rs. 6 crores and something. But, the actual expenditure on establishment employed on the execution of works was Rs. 74,61,800. Has any percentage been fixed regarding expenditure on works?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The question is not clear. But, there is a slab percentage with regard to the levying of departmental charges which varies with the amount of each individual work. It is true that the actual expenditure is more than what we charge. But, this Department is not run purely on a commercial basis.

**Shri Gidwani:** What are the reasons for spending more money, about Rs. 24 lakhs?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It is an accounting matter. We spend more than what we charge because we are not a commercial Department, as I stated earlier. It is a service organisation.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether excess expenditure was charged after the revised estimate or not?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** This represents the actuals.

#### GUJRATI HIGH SCHOOL, BURMA

**\*1638. Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the building of the Gujarati High School situated in Voyle Road, Rangoon has been requisitioned by the Burma Government; and

(b) if so, the amount of compensation paid in this connection?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The School authorities get a monthly rent of Rs. 1,500 from the Government of the Union of Burma.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** May I know if the Government of Burma has provided any accommodation for the teaching of the children of Gujaratis?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** The Gujarati High School in Rangoon is functioning in a building and we have received no complaints.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Have the Government any knowledge about the number of school-going children of Gujaratis in Rangoon?

**Mr. Speaker:** He is going into details. Next question.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** One more question, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a small matter. It is no use pursuing it. Next question.

#### BORDER INCIDENTS

**\*1640. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten Indian nationals who were engaged in fixing boundary mark pillars between Indo-Pakistan border near Patamari in Goalpara district of Assam were arrested recently by the Pakistan border police;

(b) whether it is also a fact that bricks, cement and other materials were also carried away by the Pakistan Police;

(c) if so, the steps taken in the matter; and

(d) whether the steps taken have proved fruitful?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) to (d). Some Indian nationals engaged on the construction of boundary pillars on the Rangpur-Goalpara border were arrested by the Pakistan Border Police, who also seized the construction material being used by them.

The arrested persons have been released but some items of the construction material have not yet been returned. The High Commissioner for India in Pakistan has lodged an emphatic protest with the Government of Pakistan against this high-handed action of the Pakistan Border Police. The Government of Pakistan have also been asked to issue instructions for the return of the material and to award exemplary punishment to the offenders. The reply from the Government of Pakistan is awaited.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Under what circumstances were the Indian nationals arrested? When they were released? How many of the items which the Pakistan police carried away are still with the Pakistan Government?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** The materials which they had taken away have not yet been returned so far as our information goes. A number of our boatmen labourers and masons who were engaged in the construction of these pillars were arrested and they were taken over to Pakistan territory. It is also said that they were assaulted by the Pakistan police.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** My question was, how many of the Indian labourers who were engaged in the work were arrested by the Pakistan police, how many of them were beaten and how many have been released up-to-date.

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I have not got the number of people who had been arrested, but all of them have been released.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** In reply to starred question No. 1602, it was stated that we are a courteous Gov-

ernment. May I know whether it is because of that policy of being a courteous Government that Indian nationals are always arrested on the Indian border and beaten also?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** We have not heard from the Pakistan Government as to what is their viewpoint. They might allege that they were not on Indian ground—I do not know. We have not yet heard from the Pakistan Government.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the Government of India will approach the Government of Pakistan to release all the persons who have been arrested on Indian borders, before the talks commence between the Prime Ministers of the two Governments?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I have not got the information with me as to whether there are any other Indian nationals in their custody at this moment.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the Government of India will approach the Government of Pakistan to give compensation to all the Indians who were arrested and beaten by them or who might have lost their lives during the course of the beating?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Wherever it is considered necessary we have demanded compensation.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Have they got that?

**Shri Gidwani:** They do not repay the debt; they will give compensation!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. That is not the way of talking.

**Sarda Hukam Singh:** Is it for the Pakistan Government in such instances to have the last say, or have our Government any stand of which they might ever be sure and which they can insist upon?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** As I said, in this particular case certain information was brought to our notice, and we made our approach to the Pakistan Government. Their reply has not yet

been received. Obviously in the absence of their reply, we are not in a position to state what is the viewpoint of that Government.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether that work is going on or that also has been abandoned?

#### LIGNITE MINING

\*1642. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 210 on the 25th February, 1955 and state:

(a) whether the preparation of a project report on the mining and exploitation of lignite in South Arcot has since been taken in hand and if so, the progress made so far;

(b) whether the excavating machinery belonging to the Indian Mining and Construction Company was purchased for the purpose or was taken on hire; and

(c) the cost at which it was purchased or hired?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) The preparation of the Project Report will be taken in hand, as soon as certain further investigations including drilling and pumping etc. now in hand at Nayveli which are considered essential to confirm the basic data on which such a project report is to be based, are completed.

(b) and (c). Certain items of excavating machinery and equipment belonging to the Indian Mining and Construction Company were made available to the Madras Government in 1953 for use on the Lignite Project originally on a loan basis. Subsequently it was found that the equipment would be required for a considerable period and that it would be most appropriate to treat the equipment as a contribution by the Central Government, towards the project. Accordingly the equipment was purchased by the Central Government at a cost of Rs. 13.48 lakhs from the Indian Mining and Construction Company and given as a contribution to the project.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What is the valuation of this machinery?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Rs. 13.48 lakhs; some of the items were good; some of them had to be repaired and then made use of.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What part are the Madras Government taking in this project?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Till the end of 1954, the Madras Government had taken up the responsibility of going ahead with the pilot project. Since the beginning of this year, the Government of India have taken up the responsibility.

#### NIZAMUDDIN EXTENSION

\*1643. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafie:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses newly constructed by Government in the Nizamud-Din Extension, New Delhi, which have been demolished up to 28th February, 1955;

(b) the reasons for the demolition; and

(c) the total loss suffered thereby?

**The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle):** (a) Nil.

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

#### चीनी मिट्टी के बर्तन बनाने का उद्योग

\* १६४४. श्री अमर सिंह डामर: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मध्य भारत सरकार को चीनी मिट्टी के बर्तन बनाने के उद्योग के लिए १९४२-४४ और १९४४-४५ में कोई अनुदान दिया गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका कहां तक उपयोग किया गया, और

(ग) क्या इसके बारे में राज्य सरकार से कोई प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हुआ है?