

Gypsum

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a party of experts was sent to Andhra during this year to investigate the availability of gypsum there; and

(b) if so, what are the results of the investigations?

The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). No party of experts was sent nor were any investigations for gypsum carried out during this year.

Pay Scales of Other Ranks in Defence Services

***704. Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the replies given to the supplementaries arising out of Starred Question No. 2283 on the 28th September, 1955 and state:

(a) whether the question of increasing the pay scales of Other Ranks in the Defence Services has been considered;

(b) if so, the decision taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Taking into account the resources available, the Government have decided not to take any further action in the matter for the present. Also the existing pay-scales of Other Ranks are, in the opinion of Government, not inadequate in comparison with the general standard of wages in the country.

(c) Does not arise.

Promotion Examinations in the Army

***709. { Shri C. D. Gautam:
Dr. S. N. Sinha.**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Permanent Regular Commissioned Officers who fail to pass the Promotion Examinations for the grant of substantive ranks of Captains and Majors are turned out of service without being provided any pensionary benefits?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): Since independence, no Regular Commissioned Officer has left the Army for failure in the promotion examinations. I may add, however, that if a future case arises, the question of reducing the pensionary benefits, otherwise

admissible, will have to be considered on its merits, as the grant of pensionary benefits requires that an Officer's service must have been satisfactory.

Oil

***710. Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of output of crude-oil (State-wise) in India during 1954; and

(b) the names of refineries now working?

The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) It is not in the public interest to disclose this information.

(b) The following three oil refineries are at present operating in India:—

1. Digboi (Assam Oil Co. Ltd.)
2. Trombay Island, Bombay.
(Standard-Vacuum Refining Co. of India Ltd.)
3. Trombay Island, Bombay.
(Burmah-Shell Refineries Ltd.)

नेपाल में भारत की पूंजी

***७१४. श्री अमर सिंह डामर :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीयों की कुल कितनी पूंजी नेपाल में वहां के उद्योगों में लगी है; और

(ख) क्या नेपाल में भारतीय उपक्रमों पर कोई प्रतिबन्ध लगाया गया है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री बंशमुख) : (क) सरकार को इसकी जानकारी नहीं है ।

(ख) कोई नहीं ।

Youth Hostel in Rajasthan

398. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to start a Youth Hostel in Rajasthan for providing accommodation to the travel-minded youth ?

The Ministry of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): There is no such proposal.