

Housing

*875. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government employees of Agartala have applied for housing loan under the Low-Income Group Housing Scheme;

(b) if so, the number of such applicants; and

(c) the steps taken to provide them with housing loans so far?

The Minister of Works Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). The Government of Tripura have not yet sent up any specific proposals to the Government of India.

Ilmenite and Monazite

*877. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that comparatively large workable Ilmenite deposits containing a comparatively high percentage of Monazite and content of Uranium exist in Kazha-Kuttam in the Trivandrum District of the Travancore-Cochin State; and

(b) if so, what plans, if any, the Government of India have in regard to the exploitation of Monazite from this area, in the near future?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Deposits of ilmenite sands have been discovered in the area but the average content of ilmenite in the mixed sands and the percentage of monazite and uranium is comparatively low.

(b) Does not arise, since there are much richer and larger deposits which are already being worked.

Detention of Mr. Pinto in Kenya

*881. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that Mr. P. G. Pinto, Assistant Secretary, Kenya Indian Congress, has been detained in Kenya Jail for a long time;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no charge has been levied against him and so far he has not been tried; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have taken or propose taking any steps to get his release?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a), Yes Sir. Mr. P. G. Pinto is under detention since the 19th June, 1954.

(b) Mr. Pinto has not yet been tried in a court of law on any charge. However, in response to his petition to the Governor of Kenya, he was informed of the allegations against him and was accorded an opportunity to appear before the Advisory Committee on Detainees. The Committee submitted its recommendation to the Governor-in-Council who decided that Mr. Pinto must continue to remain in detention.

(c) Mr. Pinto was born in Kenya and holds a life-time certificate of permanent residence in that Colony. The Government of India have not found it possible, therefore, to take any steps to secure his release.

Passport System on Indo-Pakistan Border

*882. **Shri Ibrahim Wadhwa:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unauthorised entry of people across the Indo-Pakistan border into each other's territory has declined since the introduction of passport system; and

(b) how many unauthorised entries have been made into India during the current year as compared to the previous year?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Broadcasting Facilities for B.B.C. and A.I.R. Correspondents

*883. { Pandit D. N. Tiwary;
Shri M. L. Dwivedi;

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of allowing reciprocal facilities between A.I.R. and B.B.C. correspondents is under negotiation; and

(b) if so, at what stage is the matter?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is in the final stage of negotiation.