

the students who are receiving stipends are not paid even in the month of April?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: That is not a correct statement. An ad hoc amount totalling to about Rs. 23 lakhs was placed at the disposal of 1400 institutions in the months of April and May 1956 for disbursement during the first four months of the academic session, to eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates, and that amount was to be adjusted later. So there has been no delay except in the cases about which I have already mentioned.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know the increase in the amount this year in respect of Scheduled Caste students and also backward class students as compared with last year?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: If the hon. Member will kindly look into the statement, he will find that it gives a rough idea about it.

Night Air Service

*92. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to further extend night air service during 1957; and

(b) if so, when?

The Minister of Legal Affairs and Civil Aviation (Shri Pataskar): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise

Nationalisation of Panna Diamond Mines

*93. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1126 on the 17th April, 1956 and state whether the Panna Diamond Mines have since been nationalised?

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

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It was reported some time ago that Government proposed to take over the Panna diamond mines. May I know whether that original decision has since been changed?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, the decision is there, but the amount compensation is being negotiated.

Postponement of Polling

*94. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that polling in some parts of India has been postponed;

(b) if so, the names of such constituencies and the date or dates on which the poll will be conducted in each of them; and

(c) the reasons for the postponement?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) Yes, Sir, in the snowbound regions of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 21].

(c) The reasons for the postponement are given in two Press Notes dated the 16th and the 20th February, 1957, respectively, issued by the Election Commission which are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 21].

Shri Kamath: The statement laid on the Table shows that polling in respect of four Parliamentary constituencies and one Assembly Constituency has been postponed to June—31st May—and the statement also says that the election will be completed in respect of the Kulu Assembly by the 6th July, 1957, and in respect of the Kangra Parliamentary constituency by the 15th July, 1957. What is the position in law and in fact? Would it be