

discussion on the Report of the Pay Commission cannot be extended?

Mr. Speaker: No. We thought we could spare some time today, but the hon. Finance Minister does not find it convenient to be present. Therefore, the other alternative that I suggest is, whatever can be said on the floor of the House may be said tomorrow and the debate concluded.

Some Hon. Members: Tomorrow is Friday.

Mr. Speaker: I am fully aware that tomorrow is Friday. Whatever remains can be said on the General Discussion on the Budget and also on the Finance Bill. There are a number of opportunities for hon. Members to raise these points. They have got the discussion on the President's Address and various other matters.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: If the Finance Minister is not available, Sir, the Deputy Minister is present. We can start the discussion today and hon. Members who are ready can speak on it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not going to extend the time now. Hon. Members persist in their own way of having it in this House—that is my conclusion. We referred the matter to the Business Advisory Committee. If there was some time available we wanted to have it today. Unfortunately, the Finance Minister does not find it convenient to be present today. Therefore, it will be taken up tomorrow. Whatever else remains can be sent by way of questions. If still anything more remains, hon. Members can go on referring to this matter on the President's Address, on the discussion on the Budget and also when the Finance Bill is taken up. Next Question.

Central Indian Medicinal Plants Organisation

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*71. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased

to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 93 on the 18th November, 1959 and state the further progress since made in the setting up of the Central Indian Medicinal Plants Organisation?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): In addition to the steps being taken for the development and cultivation of medicinal plants in Madras and West Bengal, further steps are being taken to develop on a commercial scale cultivation of six important medicinal plants in Kerala State in consultation with the Central Indian Medicinal Plants Organisation.

An Assistant Director has been appointed and is expected to join shortly.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether Himachal Pradesh will be included in the scheme so that medicinal plants are cultivated there also?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Ultimately, it is proposed to extend the scheme to any part of India which is suitable, but for the moment the work is being done in the three States that I have mentioned.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the sub-mountainous districts of Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur will also be utilised for the cultivation of medicinal plants?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already replied to the question when I said that it will be gradually extended to all parts, that are suitable.

Shri Pangarkar: How long will it take to finalise the scheme?

Lease Form for Coal

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*72. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question