

BOMBAY STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

*2035. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation has been chosen as the project to be aided under the Colombo Plan;

(b) the reason why the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation has been selected;

(c) was any other State Transport undertaking considered fit for giving this aid; and

(d) if not, the reason for the same?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir. This is one of the projects agreed to be aided under the Colombo Plan.

(b) to (d). The selection of projects to be aided is generally done out of those included in the Five Year Plan in consultation with the assisting country. In special cases, some other project is selected to match availabilities in the assisting country. In the latter event, only such schemes, the full details of which are known to the Government of India, can be considered.

RATE BOOK OF NAVAL STORES

506. **Shri N. S. Nair:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state what progress has been made in the compilation of an up-to-date Indian Rate Book of Naval Stores?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): Rates in respect of Naval Stores procured in India have been finalised and the Lists are under print. As regards imported stores, rates have been fixed for all items except Steel and other metal articles and wireless and electrical equipment. Pricing of these articles is expected to be completed shortly.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF BHOPAL STATE

507. **Pandit C. N. Malviya:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sir Cyril Fox made a geological survey of Bhopal State in 1948-49 and submitted his report to the State Government in 1949; and

(b) if so, whether the report gives some valuable information and what are they?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government consider that the report contains valuable information. A copy of the report is being obtained and will be placed in the Library of the House.

NATIONAL SAVINGS SCHEME

508. **Shri Krishna Chandra:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount invested during the year 1951-52 in the National Savings Certificate of the denomination of ten rupees, fifty rupees and hundred rupees separately; and

(b) the total amount of investment on March 31, 1952 of small rural area investors viz., those having credit balance of not more than two hundred rupees in the form of National Savings Certificates?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) About Rs. 17.18 lakhs Rs. 23.47 lakhs and Rs. 199.21 lakhs respectively.

(b) I am afraid this information can be collected only by examination of the records in the post offices in the rural areas all over the country for many years and this will involve a large amount of time and labour not commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

SOAP-STONE

509. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) which are the principal producing areas for Soap-stone in India;

(b) what are the total requirements of the country;

(c) what percentage of it is mined in Rajasthan and exported outside;

(d) of what place the Soap-stone is deemed to be best and in what quantity it is available;

(e) where it is mostly exported to; and

(f) how much Dollar and Sterling is earned by it annually?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) to (f). A statement giving the information available is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 4]