

STATE FINANCE MINISTERS CONFERENCE

*114. **Shri A. C. Gaba:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the subjects discussed and the decisions arrived at, in the Conference of the State Finance Ministers held recently in Delhi; and

(b) whether these decisions are obligatory or only of recommendatory nature?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). The main object of the Conference was to exchange views on various financial issues so that action on problems connected with the economic development of the country may be taken with the greatest common measure of agreement. A statement showing the items which formed the agenda of the Conference and the broad conclusions thereon is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 21]

RECRUITING CENTRES

*115. **Shri Achuthan:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the number of recruiting centres for the Defence Forces and where they are located?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): There are 10 main and 44 sub-recruiting Centres which carry out recruitment of Other Ranks for the Army and of ratings of the Navy. Air Force has 14 recruiting centres. Their location and the territory allotted to each is shown in the statement which is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 22]

EXPORT OF SILVER AND GOLD JEWELLERY

28. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to withdraw or have already withdrawn the restrictions on the export of silver and gold jewellery and utensils?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) Since January, 1950 the export of jewellery and utensils made of silver has been allowed freely in order to encourage cottage industry and to earn foreign exchange. The export of jewellery made wholly or mainly of gold requires the 250 P.S.D.

permission of the Reserve Bank. The export of utensils made of gold is not permitted.

(b) Government do not consider that any particular steps are called for.

LIBRARY PROJECT

29. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UNESCO made certain contributions to provide for the establishment in India of a pilot Library Project;

(b) if so, the amount of contribution;

(c) the number of persons trained under the scheme;

(d) whether the project has been started and, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what the project will annually cost India?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) and (d). Yes. Unesco has made financial contribution for setting up a Delhi Public Library. The details of its set up and activities were furnished in reply to Unstarred Question No. 454 asked by Shri S. N. Das on 18th July, 1952.

(b) Unesco's contribution in the various years has been as follows:—

1949	\$ 1428
1950	\$ 6112
1951	\$ 15380
1952	\$ 16818

(Budget Provision)

(c) The present Director of the Library was trained under a Unesco Fellowship and a second fellowship is being provided for training another member of the Library staff.

(e) Under the terms of an Agreement dated the 22nd May, 1951 drawn up between the Government of India and the Unesco for the period 1951-54 (fiscal year, 1955), the Government of India are to provide a sum in rupees equivalent to \$ 1,20,000 while Unesco will contribute for the same period a sum of \$ 60,000. The following amounts have been paid by the Government