EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

574. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up to examine the future of the Resettlement and Employment Organisation has started its work; and

(b) if so, when its work is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): Yes.

(b) I am unable to indicate any definite date at this stage.

FERTILIZERS

575. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement was recently signed between the Government of India and the U. S. A. in regard to acquisition of fertilizers and their distribution;

(b) if so, what quantity of fertilizers would be acquired and at what cost; .and

(c) how these fertilizers would be .distributed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) A supplementary agreement was signed on 6th December 1952 between the Governments of India and the U. S. A. to obtain and distribute fertilisers.

(b) Under this agreement. a total quantity of 75,000 tons of Sulphate of Ammonia and 3,000 tons of other chemical fertilisers will be procured at an estimated cost of 6 million dollars.

(c) The Sulphate of Ammonia will come into the Fertiliser Pool operated by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Pool arranges the distribution of all Sulphate of Ammonia whether imported or produced internally. The bulk of the supplies are made to State Governments who in their turn arrange retail to farmers with departmental or private agencies like firms or Co-operative Societies. The Pool is operated on a "no profit no loss" basis. The question of free supply, for experimental purposes, of Ammonium Sulphate and the other comparatively unfamiliar fertiliser which are being imported under this Agreement in small quantities is under consideration. These experimental quantities will be used to establish proper end-use practice on the ground and in storage.

ADULT CIVILIAN TRAINING SCHEME

576. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) when the Adult Civilian Training Scheme first started functioning;

(b) how many seats were sanctioned in the beginning for the training of craftsmen;

(c) the period of training; and

(d) how many students have come out successful at the end of the training of the first batch?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) April 1950.

(b) 10.000

(c) 2 years including 6 months apprenticeship training in actual production work, for technical trades, and 12 months for vocational trades.

(d) 7,088.

RECRUITMENT OF SEA-MEN

577. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) how far the proposal to open Government-managed employment offices for the recruitment of sea-men has materialised and progressed;

(b) how many such offices are proposed to be opened and where:

(c) what are the defects found out by Government in the recruitment of sea-men by non-official agencies; and

(d) how many such non-official agencies are at present working and in which places?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Employment offices are proposed to be set up at Bombay and Calcutta which are the principal ports of recruitment for seamen. As a preliminary, a census of effective seamen is being carried out and large numbers of seamen have already been registered. Arrangements for the opening of the offices are now under consideration.

(c) Under the present arrangements for the selection of crews, the Shipping Masters have very little control over the actual selections and are not