

ex-State Forces for training and camping purposes.

(b) and (c). No special arrangement other than the general agreement for the take-over of the State Forces assets by the Centre was made at the time of integration. The general agreement was that whatever was in use of the ex-State Forces on the date of Federal Financial integration would accrue to the Central Government.

CUSTOMS SQUAD

*1017. **Shri Raghuramaiah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Customs Squad operating in the Karwar-Goa land frontier recently seized a large quantity of gold which was being smuggled into India by a taxi; and

(b) if so, the amount of gold so found?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) and (b). The Customs Flying Squad, Supa, recovered 15,850 tolas of gold in all from a taxi going from Karwar to Hubli; the gold was suspected to have been smuggled into India.

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

*1027. **Shri Raghuramaiah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company proposes to convert itself into a mutual Company;

(b) whether Government have accorded their consent to the proposal; and

(c) what are the conditions subject to which the consent has been accorded?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) Government have not received any formal proposal from the Company under Section 10 of the Insurance Act.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

768 P.S.D.

OIL PROSPECTING IN SAURASHTRA

*859. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state the progress that has so far been made in prospecting oil in Saurashtra and near-about area?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 9.]

NATIONAL PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL LABORATORIES

*890. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state the annual recurring expenses on National Chemical Laboratory, Poona and National Physical Laboratory, Delhi?

(b) What is the expenditure on the salary of the staff in each Laboratory?

(c) Have any students been admitted in any of the Laboratories for Post-graduate degree?

(d) If so, is it intended to convert these Laboratories into affiliated University Laboratories?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 10.]

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

SOCIAL WELFARE ORGANISATIONS

187. **Shri N. Rachiah:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of social welfare organisations, to which financial aid has been granted by the Central Social Welfare Board in Mysore State up to 31st January, 1954; and

(b) the total amount of assistance given to the State so far?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) 27.

(b) Rs. 68,200/-

ELECTIONS

188. Shri K. C. Sodhia: Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred during the current year in connection with (i) the preparation and printing of electoral rolls and (ii) the conduct of elections and bye-elections;

(b) whether any amounts were paid to the State Governments for this purpose; and

(c) if so, how much to each?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix IV, annexure No 11.]

(b) and (c). Expenditure on the preparation and printing of electoral rolls and conduct of elections and bye-elections to Parliament and State Legislatures is incurred initially by the State Governments. Payments to the State Governments towards the Government of India's share of expenditure are made towards the close of the financial year provisionally 'on account' pending final adjustment later on the basis of audited figures. Payments proposed to be made to the State Governments during the current financial year are shown in column 4 of the statement referred to at (a) above. These payments are not confined only to the Government of India's share of election expenditure for the current financial year but also relate to the arrears due to be paid to the State

Governments on account of Government of India's share for the previous years.

HINDUSTAN AIRCRAFT LTD.

189. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of employees working in the Rail Coach Section of the Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore, are exposed to the danger of inhaling foul air as a result of the spraying of thinners and nitro-cellulose paints; and

(b) the steps taken if any, for protecting the workers in the rail coach "Hangar" shed?

The Minister of Defence Organization (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). There is no spraying of thinners and nitro-cellulose paints in Hindustan Aircraft Ltd.'s Railcoach Factory and, therefore, the danger of inhaling foul air as a result of such spraying, does not exist.

There is, however, general painting work in the Railcoach shed for which Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. have provided—

- (1) a well ventilated separate building,
- (2) protective clothing to workers
- (3) free supply of milk to maintain good health,
- (4) respirators to avoid inhaling fumes; and
- (5) adequate washing facilities.

Proposals are under way to instal a suitable paint fume extractor system at a cost of Rs. 1.5 lakhs.