

that of Major, and the Subedar Major has been retired from Service. A warning has also been given to the Commander and the staff of the Brigade Headquarters.

EXEMPTION OF TOBACCO FROM EXCISE DUTY

***1123. Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to bring to the notice of tobacco-growers information regarding the quantity of tobacco exempted from excise duty; and

(b) whether any pamphlets have been distributed in regional languages?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) and (b). In the course of their visits to tobacco-growing villages, the Central Excise Inspectors bring to the notice of all tobacco-growers the limits upto which each grower may retain tobacco without payment of duty for his personal consumption. Printed pamphlets have also been circulated in English and regional languages from time to time.

TRIBAL STUDENTS OF TRIPURA

***1130. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government grant any fixed quota of stipends every year to the tribal students of colleges, in Tripura;

(b) if not, the steps that Government propose to take to give higher education to these tribal students; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps to reserve some seats every year in the college hostels for these students?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Government of India Scheduled Castes and Tribes and Other Backward Classes Scholarships Scheme covers the requirements of tribal students for higher education.

(c) No, Sir.

SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

***1144. Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the average annual expenditure incurred by the Ministry on the School of Foreign Languages opened for the benefit of Military Officers?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): The average annual expenditure on the School is about Rs. 47,000. The school is open not only to officers of the Defence Services but also to civilian officers of the Government of India.

HIGHER TRAINING FOR A.M.C. OFFICERS

***1148. Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) how long the A. M. C. Officers who have been sent to the United Kingdom recently on study-leave will remain there; and

(b) the amount of expenditure likely to be incurred on them?

The Minister of Defence Organisations (Shri Tyagi): (a) Not longer than twelve months which may, however, be combined with other kinds of leave, excepting sick leave.

(b) About Rs. 1,20,000.

SMUGGLING OF OPIUM

547. Shri Gohain: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken to prevent the smuggling of opium and other prohibited articles in the Tirap Frontier Tract of N. E. F. Agency?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): Yes, Sir. Necessary staff has been posted at Hellgate and Ledo to prevent the smuggling of opium and other prohibited articles across the Tirap Frontier Tract of North East Frontier Agency.