

House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 20.]

(b) Since active service signifies service in an operational area, service of these officers in diplomatic missions is not included in their period of active service.

(c) Pay and allowances of these officers are met from the Defence Service Estimates.

(d) The total number of such officers is 87 (eighty-seven).

AIR FORCE

450. Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a new training scheme for apprentices joining Air Force;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the scheme; and

(c) by what time it will be started?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) No, Sir.

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

EXCAVATION (NALAGARH)

451. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether excavation carried on in Nalagarh, have thrown further light on the missing link between the decline of the Indus Valley civilization and the rise of Mauryan Empire;

(b) if so, whether in view of the valuable discoveries being made, Government propose to conduct an intensive and large-scale exploration in that area; and

(c) if so, what will be the approximate expenditure involved in the exploration work?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) The Central Gov-

ernment have not carried out any excavations in Nalagarh. They have, however, been excavating in Rupar (Punjab) about five or six miles from the border of Nalagarh. The result of the excavations is contained in "Indian Archaeology, 1953-54, A Review", copies of which are available in the Library of the Parliament.

(b) The Central Government have already explored a few sites in Nalagarh. Intensive exploration may be continued in that area as a part of a larger plan of exploring the river valleys of the Punjab.

(c) No estimates can be given at this stage.

MILITARY DAIRY FARMS

452. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production of the Indian Military Dairy Farms;

(b) whether this production is sufficient to meet the requirements of the Armed Forces;

(c) if so, whether there is any excess production diverted to civilian consumption;

(d) if, however, the answer to part (b) above is in the negative, whether the deficit is made up by purchase of milk and dairy products from the open market; and

(e) whether Government have made any comparison of production costs with those of the civilian dairy farms in the areas where the military dairy farms are situated, with a view to seeing whether the latter are being run economically?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) The total production of the Indian Military Dairy Farms in September last was as under:—

(i) Milk	24,33,243 lbs.
(ii) Cream	25,755 lbs.
(iii) Butter	18,675 lbs.

This is a fair average.

(b) to (d). Where production farms are located, it is usually sufficient, but owing to seasonal dryage of animals during summer, there is an occasional deficit which is made up by purchase from the open market. During winter the production is surplus to requirements and is disposed of to the best advantage to the State including sales to civilians.

(e) Since there are no civil dairy farms knowing that work with the same methods of production, processing, delivery and accounting as the Military Farms, no correct comparison is possible. However, almost all Military Farms are running at a profit.

BASIC EDUCATION

453. Shri Ram Dass: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Schools, State-wise, that have been converted into Basic Schools during the years 1952-53 and 1953-54;

(b) the number of Basic Training Institutions, State-wise, for junior and senior teachers; and

(c) the amount of the subsidy that the Centre has given, State-wise, towards the expansion of Basic Education during the years 1952-53 and 1953-54 and 1954-55 upto September, 1954?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). The matter concerns the State Governments.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 21.]

अफीम

४५४. श्री आर० सी० शर्मा : क्या बिना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य भारत में, १९५२ में अफीम की खेती कितनी एकड़ भूमि में की गई थी,

(ख) अफीम की खेती पर वहां के कितने परिवार निर्भर हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि हाल में इस की खेती पर कुछ प्रतिबन्ध लगाये गये हैं ;

(घ) यदि सच है, तो इन प्रतिबन्धों का स्वरूप क्या है ;

(ङ) अफीम की खेती में काम न आने वाली जमीन का क्या उपयोग किया जायेगा, और

(च) अफीम के विस्थापित कारखानों के परिवारों की बेकारी की समस्या का क्या हल सोचा जा रहा है ?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) 19,994 acres were placed under opium cultivation in Madhya Bharat during 1953-54

(b) The required information is not available with the Government. 38,283 cultivators were, however, granted licences during 1953-54

(c) and (d). No new restrictions have been imposed this year except that there may be a reduction of acreage under opium cultivation. Licences are issued in accordance with certain principles which have been laid down by the Government of India and these principles have been enforced during the current season, i.e. 1954-55 (from 1-10-54 to 30-9-55).

(e) and (f). The cultivators can change over to other cash crops such as sugar cane, wheat, barley, gram, cotton etc., and as such the question of unemployment does not arise.