

"Amrutara Santan"

69. **Shri Sanganna** : Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 682 on the 9th April, 1955 regarding the translation of the Oriya book "Amrutara Santan" into other regional languages of India and state the decision and action taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das) : The matter is still under consideration of the Sahitya Akademi.

Mercy Petitions

70. **Sardar Iqbal Singh** : Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mercy petitions against death sentences or applications for pardon received from convicts or from others on their behalf during 1955 so far; and

(b) the number of petitions accepted?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant) : (a) 114 petitions for mercy or for the grant of pardon were received from or on behalf of convicts under sentence of death during the period from 1st January to the 30th June, 1955.

(b) Death sentence was commuted to transportation for life in the case of 27 prisoners.

Joint Services Wing Examination

71. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury** : Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates who sat at each of the Joint Services Wing written Examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission during 1953 and 1954;

(b) the number of successful candidates at each of these Examinations;

(c) the number of candidates from among the successful ones called for interview before the Military Services Selection Board in 1953 and 1954; and

(d) the number of candidates selected by the Military Services Selection Board in 1953 and 1954 for admission to the Military Academy?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi) : (a) to (d). A statement giving complete information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 44].

National Plan Loan

72. **Shri D. C. Sharma** : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount paid to the Punjab State out of the amount raised for the National Plan Loan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh) : The arrangement was that State Governments would get an allocation from the National Plan Loan equal to the amount which they would have normally been able to raise in the open market if they had approached the market independently. As Punjab had no programme for open market loan during 1954-55, no amount was paid to that State from the National Plan Loan.

I. A. F. Accidents

73. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury** : Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Military Plane crashes which occurred during the period from the 1st January to the 20th April, 1955;

(b) the number of Military personnel killed as a result of these accidents; and

(c) the causes of these crashes?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia) : (a) and (b). There were six accidents reported during the period in which four Air Force personnel were killed.

(c) It was possible to establish the cause of accident in two cases only which was pilots' error of judgment. In the other cases the cause of accident could not be definitely established.