

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b) Twelve gangs of Rajasthani dacoits are reported to be operating on the border and taking refuge in West Pakistan after committing serious offences. In practice, the Indian Police have not been getting the cooperation of the Pakistani police in apprehending the dacoits.

(c) and (d) A Conference of Police Officers of Rajasthan, Kutch and West Pakistan was held in Hyderabad (Sind) in March, 1956. It is to be hoped that the Conference will lead to an improvement in the situation.

MARCHIONESS OF WINCHESTER
MEMORIAL HALL

***1428. Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a "Marchioness of Winchester Memorial Hall" is being erected in New Delhi by the Marchioness of Winchester and is to be given as a gift to the city of New Delhi;

(b) if so, what purpose the hall is going to serve; and

(c) where it will be located?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) I am not aware of any such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

HAND-MADE MATCH INDUSTRY

***1429. Shri Natarajan:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the slump in the market for the hand-made match industry;

(b) the total number of unemployed people in this cottage industry in Madras; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Industries (Shri Kanungo): (a) Government are not aware of any serious slump in hand-made Match Industry.

(b) Information is not available.

(c) Government have no information of any serious unemployment in the industry and, therefore, the question of taking any special steps in the matter does not arise.

THERMAL GENERATING SETS IN PEPSU

***1440. Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that PEPSU Government have decided to dispose of surplus thermal generating sets installed in the State; and

(b) if so, whether the Government have requested the Central Water and Power Commission to arrange for the sale of these sets to other States of India?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

PAKISTAN REPUBLIC DAY

***1447. Shri Kamath:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the London "Daily Express" report about the behaviour of some Indian Diplomatic officials on the occasion of the Inter-Services Parade at Karachi on Pakistan's Republic Day;

(b) whether the allegations in that report are correct; and

(c) if not, what are the facts?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The allegations are false and mischievous.

SPELTING PLANTS

***1448. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to the