

Minesweeping Squadron

887. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh :**
Sardar Akarpuri :

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have formed a new minesweeping squadron of the Indian Navy; and

(b) if so, the names of the ships in this squadron?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia) : (a) Yes.

(b) The KARWAR, the KAKINADA the CANNANORE and the CUDDALLORE.

Grants to Hindi Organisations

888. **Shri Dhusiya :** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state :

(a) the grounds on which grants are given to the various Government and non-Government organisations that are working for development of Hindi; and

(b) the number of such organisations which have applied for grants during 1956-57 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das) : (a) Central Government assistance for 'Promotion of Hindi' is generally given to the State Governments concerned in respect of the approved schemes. The State Governments are responsible for the spread of Hindi in their respective areas and are also free to do the work in any manner and through any agency they consider best. Government of India in certain cases, however, help certain organisations of an all-India character for schemes which are not limited to any particular State or area but which are calculated to help the development of Hindi in general.

(b) 24.

Army Canteen Stores Department

889. { **Dr. Rama Rao :**
Shri Mohana Rao :

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Army Officer has been appointed as Chairman, Canteen Stores Department;

(b) if so, his present remuneration and terms and conditions of service; and

(c) what was his salary before this appointment?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia) : (a) Yes, as Chairman, Board of Administration, Canteen Stores Department (INDIA).

(b) Rs. 1,670/- P.M. in the scale of Rs. 1550-60-1850-100-2250 plus compensatory allowance admissible in BOMBAY.

The other terms and conditions of service of the officer are :—

(i) Tenure—On loan for four years from 15th May 1955.

(ii) Leave as admissible to first grade civilian officers.

(iii) Accommodation, if provided rent recoverable at 10 percent or assessed rent whichever is less, plus water and electricity charges.

(iv) Travelling allowances as admissible to first grade civilian officers.

(v) Disability and family pensions that may become payable to the officer or his family on account of any casualty during his service with Canteen Stores Department (INDIA) will be borne by the Canteen Stores Department (INDIA).

(vi) Canteen Stores Department (INDIA) service will count for his retiring pension and the Department will be liable for pension contribution to Government.

(vii) The officer and his family are governed by the military medical attendance rules.

(viii) Canteen Stores Department (INDIA) service will be treated as military service and will count for seniority, increment and promotion in the Army.

(c) Basic salary	Rs.	1,150/-
Kit maintenance allowance;	.	30/-
Qualification pay	.	75/-
Special Disturbance allowance;	.	30/-
		1,285/-

Afghan Nationals

890. **Shri Raghunath Singh :** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the number of Afghan nationals registered in India who are engaged in money-lending business?