

of Science, that there was extreme urgency for genetic analysis to be made along the coast of Travancore, where the fishing population are living near monazite sands, one of the main sources of fissionable material; and

(b) whether Government propose to conduct any investigation?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) Certain investigations on this subject have already taken place and a preliminary report in regard to them was sent to the United Nations in October, 1956. These investigations are being continued.

It might be added that Dr. Bhabha, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India, has expressed his opinion that there is no fear of grave genetic effects on the population of Kerala State because of radiation from monazite sand. People have been living there for centuries and apparently have not been affected.

Nevertheless, further studies are being undertaken.

Indo Pakistan Border

145. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the progress so far made in the demarcation, by means of pucca pillars, of the Indo-Pakistan land riverine boundary between Bihar and East Bengal?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The length of the Indo-Pakistan boundary between East Pakistan and the Indian territory, which was transferred from Bihar to West Bengal, on the reorganisation of States, is about 140 miles, of which about 46 miles is land boundary and the rest is riverine. So far 39 miles of the boundary has been demarcated by erection of boundary pillars. The work along the rest of the boundary is in progress.

Textiles

146. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total yardage and the value of cloth (coarse, medium, fine and super-fine) produced in India during the year 1956-57;

(b) the total yardage of cloth of different varieties imported into and exported from India during the year 1956-57;

(c) the number of spindles installed in India during the above period;

(d) the total yardage and the value of handloom silken and cotton cloth produced in India in the year 1956-57 and the total yardage and the value of handloom cloth exported from India during the same period; and

(e) the total yardage and the value of silk and art-silk that was imported and exported from India during the above period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) to (e). A statement is attached. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 26].

New Supreme Court Building

147. Shri Pratap Keshari Deo: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state when the new Supreme Court building will be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): By December 1957.

Tea Garden Labourers

148. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state the number of tea garden labourers recruited from Orissa in the year 1956-57?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): According to available information, 2479 persons