

Bonus Shares

437. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications received for issuing bonus shares during the years 1955-56 and 1956-57;

(b) the amount thereof; and

(c) the number of applications granted, refused and pending?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). During the year 1955-56, 113 applications for consent to the issue of bonus shares for a total amount of Rs. 14.71 crores were received. Out of these, consent was granted to 63 applications, 44 applications were refused consent, 4 applications were withdrawn and 2 applications are pending.

During the year 1956-57, 164 applications for consent to the issue of bonus shares for a total amount of Rs. 21.9 crores were received. Out of these consent was granted to 30 applications, 60 applications were refused consent, 3 applications were withdrawn and 71 applications are pending.

Oil Drilling in Midnapur, West Bengal

438. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Sadhan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage the work of finding oil is being carried on by the Standard-Vacuum Oil Company in Midnapur, West Bengal;

(b) whether dynamite is being used by them; and

(c) if so, whether any houses have been damaged by the explosion of dynamite there?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). A seismic oil exploration party working under the Indo-Stanvac Petroleum Project

and using a small charge of explosives worked for 7 to 10 days in an area of 10 to 20 miles east of Midnapur during second and third weeks of May, 1957. No unusual damage (i.e. over Rs. 100 to Rs. 200) was reported. The usual minor damages to frail and flimsy mud constructed buildings were experienced. The officer of the Land Revenue Department of the West Bengal Government who accompanies the field crew, assesses such damages and arranges payment for all claims immediately.

Shifting of Offices of the Hindustan Steel Ltd.

439. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state whether the offices of Hindustan Steel Ltd. situated in Sundarnagar (Delhi) and Calcutta have been shifted to Rourkela?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Yes; the Offices of the Company were shifted from Delhi to Calcutta in August, 1955, and subsequently to Rourkela in November, 1956.

State Social Welfare Advisory Board of Orissa

440. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the amount granted by the Central Social Welfare Board to the State Social Welfare Advisory Board of Orissa during 1955-56 and 1956-57; and

(b) the schemes on which the money granted has been spent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a)

1955-56

1956-57

Rs. 1,42,786

Rs. 2,27,650-3-0

(b) (i) Welfare Extension Projects and (ii) Administration of the State Social Welfare Advisory Board.