

(b) if so, the amount granted?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Smuggling of Gold

450. Shri Supakar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the number of cases of gold smuggling detected on the Indo-Pakistan border during 1956?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The number of cases of gold smuggling detected on the Indo-Pakistan border during 1956 is 720.

#### Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955

450-A. Shri B. C. Mallick: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases arising out of "untouchability" brought to court of law from the date of the commencement of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 till the 30th April, 1957; and

(b) the number of persons punished under the Act, so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The State Governments are responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, which makes the practice of untouchability a cognisable offence. Uptodate information relating to the offences under this Act is not therefore available with the Central Government. However, according to the periodical information furnished by the State Governments, prosecutions were launched under the Act, upto 31st March, 1956, in 257 cases. These figures do not include the States of Rajasthan and Bhopal in respect of which this information is not available with the Central Government.

#### Rajasthan Police Force

451. Shri H. U. Sharma: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the integration of the State forces with the Army, the Rajasthan Government has been forced to increase the strength of its Police Force;

(b) if so, whether it was done under an agreement; and

(c) whether a copy of the agreement will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The State Government raised an Armed Constabulary after the integration of the State forces with the Army.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Quasi Permanent Staff

452. Shri Balmiki: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-Gazetted Secretariat staff has not been declared quasi-permanent after 1st July, 1952;

(b) whether it is also a fact that quasi-permanent clerks who are now working as Assistants and are eligible for declaration as quasi-permanent Assistants are not being declared as such;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to declare them quasi-permanent; and

(d) by what date such quasi-permanent Assistants who have put in more than 10 years service as Assistants will be confirmed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Non-gazetted employees in the Secretariat except Assistants have continued to receive certificates of quasi-permanency to date. In the case of