

from the payment of sales tax in Manipur;

(b) the estimated amount of annual exemption; and

(c) which are the handloom products exempted?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):

(a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 2,000 per year.

(c) All cloth woven on handlooms is exempted.

#### Rural University in Delhi

1230. Shri Damani: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a move to start a Rural University in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the nature of such university?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). Statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 56.]

#### Madras Medical College

1231. Shri Warior: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a press note has been issued by the Government of Madras State justifying their action in refusing seats in the Madras Medical College to students from former Malabar District of that State;

(b) if so, whether it is not in disregard of the instructions of the Central Government; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Central Government's direction reserving 27 seats in the Madras Medical Colleges for the Kerala students was issued on 24-6-57. The Government of Madras pointed out that according to the information received by them the Medical College at Kozhikode would start functioning immediately, and requested the Central Government to reconsider the decision as there was a heavy rush for seats in all the Madras Medical Colleges. After reconsidering the matter, the Central Government suggested that if the Kozhikode Medical College was opened, the 27 students from Kerala may be recalled to Kerala and that, till then, 27 additional seats may be created for them in the Madras Colleges. This was conveyed by the Government of Madras to the Kerala Government on 31-7-57. As the Kozhikode Medical College has been opened, the question of taking any further action in the matter does not arise.

#### Vanaspati

1232. Shri Warior: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence had received any request from the Industries Minister of Kerala to make use of the Vanaspati manufactured by the hydrogenation factory of Kozhikode in the Canteens run by the Military stations in India; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): (a) and (b). Yes, a request has been received. All procurement for the Ministry of Defence is done by the Ministry of Food and the Kerala Government is being informed accordingly.

#### Coal Price Revision Committee

1233. Qazi Matin: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state whether the Coal Price Revision Committee is to take into account (i) the inclusion of mines managers and other highly paid supervisory

staff within the scope of the coal mines Provident Fund Scheme; (ii) the loss on compulsory stowing, i.e., caused by inadequacy of the Coal Board Subsidies; (iii) the building of canteens in accordance with Rule 64 of the Mines Rules 1955; (iv) the building of shelter in accordance with Rule 62 of the Mines Rule 1955; (v) the increased cost of current colliery stores; (vi) the increased cost of technical and planning personnel, not covered by the Industrial Award; (vii) the increased cost of demurrage on wagons caused by the new policy of compulsory loading within 5½ hours of daylight?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** The Central Government appointed a Committee to undertake an investigation into the prices of coal. The terms of reference of the Committee are:

(i) to examine and report upon the cost of production of coal/coke in the country taking into account *inter alia* the awards and other relevant factors that have a bearing on the coal production programme envisaged in the Second Five Year Plan;

(ii) on the basis of such investigation to recommend whether, and if so, what changes are necessary in the price structure of coal and coke; and

(iii) to consider and to report on the impact of the price changes recommended by the Committee on the economy of the country and on industry generally.

It is for the Committee to consider the relevancy of various factors and Government do not want to prejudice their deliberations by indicating any specific factors for consideration.

#### **Salem Magnesite Mines**

**1234. Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop the magnesite mines in

Salem in the Public Sector after 1958;

(b) the proposal, if any, of the Madras Government; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) to (c). The Government of India do not have any proposal at present to develop the magnesite mines in Salem. The question of their exploitation as a State enterprise is being examined by the Government of Madras.

#### **Release of Political Prisoners**

**1235. Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many political and non-political prisoners were released in connection with 15th August, Independence Day and 1857 Centenary celebrations?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** The Government of India have information only regarding prisoners released in the Union Territories. The total number of prisoners released in these Territories was 215.

#### **Recruitment**

**1236. Shri J. R. Mehta:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how far the discretion of the Heads of Departments plays a part in the matter of recruitment of non-gazetted staff through Employment Exchanges;

(b) whether any Departmental Selection Boards are provided for the purpose of screening candidates whose names may be sent up by the Employment Exchanges; and

(c) if so, how are these Boards constituted, and who constitutes them?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):**