

allotted so far to any one of them. Steps have been taken to expedite de-reservation of forests for making available hilly land. Allotment of hilly land will start after the paddy land has been brought fully under cultivation.

Ploughing animals have not so far been supplied to any of them due to transport difficulties. Transport of cattle from the mainland will commence very shortly.

Department of Archaeology Workers Union

663. Shri Easwara Iyer: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Archaeology Workers Union applied for recognition; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimani): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The application is under consideration.

Pakistanis in India

664. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pakistanis arrested in India during 1957;

(b) the number of persons against whom criminal proceedings have been instituted;

(c) the number of persons sent back to Pakistan during 1957; and

(d) whether there is any evidence available about the purpose of visit of these Pakistanis to India?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

Scholars for Study in West Germany

665. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether selection of scholars for study in West German Universities has been finalised; and

(b) if so, when they are leaving for West Germany?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimani): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some have already reached West Germany and others are expected to leave shortly.

Indebtedness of Scheduled Tribes.

666. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken to liquidate the indebtedness of the Scheduled Tribes?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): It is the State Governments who have to take various steps to liquidate the indebtedness of the Scheduled Tribes. However, in pursuance of the recommendation made by the Central Advisory Board for Tribal Welfare in its meeting held on October 13, 1957, that all Adivasi debts which are more than three years old, should be written off and that the debts of the last three years should be paid up after allowing the interest at the minimum rate but not exceeding 6 per cent. In any case, the Government of India have conveyed to the State Governments the desirability of the State Governments taking appropriate steps in this regard and giving necessary help to the Adivasis through the co-operative societies to be organised for the purpose.