

**Economy Board**

1691. { Shri Vajpayee:  
Shri Sadhu Ram:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Economy Board set up by the Government of India in June, 1957, has been re-constituted;

(b) whether any meeting of the Board as re-constituted has been held; and

(c) if so, suggestions made by the Board and which have been accepted by Government to effect further economy?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Board, as re-constituted, has held two meetings so far.

(c) Certain suggestions for economy made by the reconstituted Board are under consideration. On the basis of the Board's suggestion, orders have, however, been issued that Secretariat Assistants should not normally be provided to the Welfare Officers working in Ministries/Departments.

**Lands Belonging to Defence Ministry in Punjab**

1692. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land belonging to the Defence Ministry in Punjab;

(b) acreage of land which has been leased out to the public; and

(c) the purpose for which the remaining land will be used?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithla): (a) 34,664 acres, approximately.

(b) 2,274 acres approximately.

(c) Mainly for Defence and Cantonment purposes. Whenever small cultivable areas become temporarily surplus they are cultivated by Regiments/

Units/or Military Farms to the extent possible, and increasingly so, under planned schemes for increasing food production. Where this is not possible, they will be leased out to private agriculturists/or bonafide Co-operative Societies in conformity with the aim of increasing potential food output and with certain priorities laid down by Government.

**Treasuries in Himachal Pradesh**

1693. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of treasuries and sub-treasuries in the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether any new sub-treasuries are proposed to be opened in Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the names of the places where sub-treasuries are proposed to be opened?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):

(a) There are 5 treasuries and 20 sub-treasuries in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c). Sanction has already been given for the opening of 3 sub-treasuries, one each at Chachiot in the Mandi District and Kilar and Trilokinath in the Chamba District. Besides, there is a proposal under consideration of the Himachal Pradesh Administration to open a sub-treasury at Bharmaur in Chamba District.

**Oil Drilling Operations in Punjab**

1694. { Shri Ram Krishan:  
Sardar Iqbal Singh:  
Shri Daljit Singh:

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

(a) the number and names of places where oil drilling operations are going on in the Punjab;

(b) the total amount spent so far in this regard;

(c) the total amount to be spent during 1958-59;