

Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands

2264. Shri Nallakoya: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many Medical Officers were posted to the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands during 1958-59;

(b) how many of them actually joined duty before the Monsoons, and

(c) what steps Government propose taking to ensure prompt joining for duty in future?

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

(b) Five.

(c) In future it is proposed to recruit Medical Officers from open market on contract basis to ensure prompt joining for duty

Co-operation

2267 Shri Nallakoya: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2387 on the 19th September, 1958 and state

(a) whether the amount allotted to Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands for 1958-59 under the scheme Co-operation has been spent after the 31st August, 1958 and, if so, how much, and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Allotment for Co-operation for these Islands could not be spent during the year 1958-59

(b) The Co-operative Societies Act could not be enacted in these Islands during 1958-59. Allotment made during the year has now been carried over to 1959-60 and will be spent immediately as soon as this Act is extended to Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands.

Light Houses for Laccadive Islands

2268. Shri Nallakoya: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1839 on the 11th September, 1958 and state

(a) whether the marine officer has since visited the Islands of Laccadive and drawn up the plan for setting up Light Houses; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in the scheme?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The Marine Officer has visited the Laccadive Islands and has elected sites for light houses. He has however not yet drawn up the plan for setting up Light Houses

(b) Does not arise

Laccadive Islands

2269. Shri Nallakoya: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1849 on the 11th September, 1958 and state

(a) whether the Additional Chief Engineer has visited the Laccadive Islands;

(b) if so what steps have been taken to remove the rocks; and

(c) if not, when he will be visiting the Islands?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The Additional Chief Engineer, Union Territories, could not visit the Islands himself but his Surveyor of Works visited the Islands

(b) The problem has been fully assessed and steps are being taken to prepare an estimate for men, machinery, foreign exchange and materials required to blast the rocks

(c) Additional Chief Engineer's visit for this purpose is not now considered necessary