

examined the scheme submitted by Roorkee University and recommended that no separate courses need be organised in Nuclear Physics or Nuclear Chemistry but that studies in Nuclear aspects should essentially be included in the courses for the basic subjects of Physics and Chemistry. Regarding the proposal of the University for Nuclear Engineering courses, the Committee recommended that it may be considered only after the University attains a high level of development for the post-Graduate courses in Mechanical Engineering and subjects allied to Nuclear Engineering. The University Grants Commission has accepted these recommendations. The proposals of the Andhra University are yet to be examined.

Production of Manganese and Mica

3671. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of manganese ore and mica produced in India during 1958;

(b) how much of these were exported during 1958; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange realised therefrom?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b).

	Production	Export
Manganese (tons)	1,211,000	960,187
Mica (Cwts.)	630,000	388,494

(c) Rs. 24.93 crores.

Bombay Customs Office

3672. Shri Asar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many cases of wrong payment to importers by the Customs in Bombay Customs Office;

(b) if so, the number of such cases and the total amount involved during 1957-58 and 1958-59;

(c) the number of cases during the same period in which less charge demands are made due to the mistake of assessing officers;

(d) the number of cases during the same period in which the claims are found time-barred and the total amount involved;

(e) what steps have been taken by Government to recover the amount from importers and the officer-in-charge where the claims are time-barred;

(f) how many voluntary claims were made by Customs during the same period and of what total amount; and

(g) how much amount has been recovered from voluntary claims?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). No, Sir. It may, however, be mentioned that in two cases of an identical nature, in 1957-58, the Bombay Custom House had granted refunds under a *bona fide* impression that they were due. This was subsequently considered to be erroneous and requests have been made to the concerned importers to have the amounts paid to them returned voluntarily. The amount involved in these two cases was Rs. 42,452.

(c) Less charge demands were issued by the Custom House in 912 cases in 1957-58 and in 1850 cases in 1958-59. It may be pointed out that these demands are issued as a result of objections raised in audit, where an assessment is in doubt, with a view to safeguarding revenue against the time-bar prescribed under section 39 of the Sea Customs Act. Some of the objections thus issued may not ultimately be upheld. The demands in those cases have then to be withdrawn. It cannot, therefore, be said that mistakes of the assessing officers have been established in respect of all these demands.

(d) There were 38 cases involving Rs. 59,769 in 1957-58 and 70 cases involving Rs. 1,69,000 in 1958-59.

(e) and (f). Requests for voluntary payment of the amounts involved were made in all the cases. Action to recover the amounts less-charged is