

legal assistance both at Central and State sectors for Orissa; and

(d) the amount so far utilised?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** (a) and (b). Only seven applications are pending for more than one year. Of these six are under examination by the State Government pleader and one is under enquiry.

(c) Rs. 5,000 under the State Sector. No amount has been allotted for the purpose under Central Sector.

(d) Rs. 4,811.

#### Flood Relief in Orissa

**2611. Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what amount of financial assistance has been given to the people of Orissa affected by the devastating floods in August, 1960 as gratuitous relief; and

(b) what amount of help has been given to the State by the Central Government to meet the cost of gratuitous relief?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** (a) The actual amount of financial assistance given by the Orissa Government as gratuitous relief to the people affected by the floods in August, 1960 is not available. The State Government have, however, indicated a revised estimated expenditure of Rs. 279.18 lakhs on gratuitous relief which includes relief in kind as well as in cash out of an estimated total expenditure of about Rs. 535.71 lakhs on relief operations.

(b) The Government of Orissa were given a loan of Rupees one crore and a grant of Rupees one crore to meet the expenditure on relief operations including the expenditure on gratuitous relief, repairs to roads, bridges etc. damaged by the floods of 1960. As the central assistance is given on an overall basis taking into account the total expenditure incurred on relief operations it is not possible

to indicate how much of the assistance relates to expenditure on gratuitous relief.

#### Vijnan Mandirs in Madras State

**2612. Shri Dharmalingam:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vijnan Mandirs started in the Madras State so far; and

(b) the nature of work done in the Vijnan Mandir located at S. V. Nagar, Arani Taluk, North Arcot District, Madras State?

**The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) Four.

(b) A statement is given below.

#### STATEMENT

The Vijnan Mandir is equipped with a laboratory where experiments in biology and physical sciences are conducted and local students are encouraged to conduct such experiments themselves.

A science museum attached to the Vijnan Mandir contains specimens of local flora and fauna.

Through the agency of the Vijnan Mandir, rural science clubs have been started, where discussions on various matters pertaining to agriculture, health, sanitation, etc., are held, accompanied by film shows and demonstrations.

A small library is attached to the Vijnan Mandir, which contains publications both in English and in Tamil on popular scientific topics. Facilities of the library are available free to all residents of the area.

The Vijnan Mandir participates in local festivals, melas, etc., and organises science exhibitions.

The Vijnan Mandir also arranges discussions and demonstrations, where advice is given to local people on problems like sanitation, nutrition, child-care, etc.