

gold valued at Rs. 27 lakhs approximately, suspected to be contraband, was seized by the Customs Land Customs and Central Excise authorities during the period from the 5th May, 1961 to the 31st July, 1961;

(b) The main sources from which the seizures were made were the following:

- (i) Passengers coming from foreign places including Hong Kong, Singapore, Goa, Pakistan, the Persian Gulf, East Africa and Switzerland;
- (ii) Ships arriving from foreign places such as Rangoon and the Persian Gulf, and
- (iii) Persons and places within India.

N.C.C. Camps

395. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the contents of a letter dated the 1st May, 1961 published in *The Statesman* dated 17th May, 1961 written by one Mrs. K. Saha of Birbhum in connection with what happens at Social Service Camps organised by the N.C.C. especially so far as the girl cadets are concerned;

(b) if so, full details of the matter; and

(c) steps taken or proposed to be taken in connection therewith?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes.

(b) NCC Girl Cadets camped in Ahmedpur District Birbhum from 16th December to 29th December 1960 for Social Service Work in the area. There was no male officer in the girls camp premises. The Girl Cadets were taken to and from the place of social service work in nearby villages in Government transport. No NCC Cadet was

allowed to go out of camp for walks at any time and none went.

No complaint was received either by the Camp Commandant or any other higher NCC authorities regarding any bad behaviour on the part of NCC cadets or any damage to crops or fruits. There was no standing crop at that time in that area. There were no fruit trees except some banana trees. On the 28th December 1960 a party of 15 girls, not belonging to the NCC, under a lady professor from a Calcutta College came to Ahmedpur and requested the NCC authorities to let them stay in the camp for one night. This was allowed because there was no other suitable accommodation in the area for them. These girls who were NOT in the NCC and were merely allowed to stay the night of 28/29th December in the camp premises, went out for sight seeing in the evening of the 28th, it is understood, with the permission of their lady professor. There was no NCC Officer with them.

(c) Does not arise.

Temporary Posts in M.E.S.

**396. { Shri Nath Pai:
Shri Balraj Madhok:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to convert 80 per cent of the temporary posts into permanent ones;

(b) if so, since when Government have given effect to the above principle;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to confirm M.E.S. employees with effect from 1st April, 1959 instead of from 1st April, 1956 with the result that those employees who held temporary posts for more than 7 to 8 years and who have retired from service just before 1st April, 1959 would be deprived of the full pensionary benefits; and

(d) how many M.E.S. Civilian Officers and sub-ordinates have been made permanent since then?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir. Orders have been issued that informations and other offices which are of a permanent character, 80 p.c. of the temporary posts of various grades which are required for work of a permanent nature and which have been in existence for 3 years continuously on 1-4-1959 may be converted into permanent ones.

(b) 1st April, 1959.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to convert the temporary posts into permanent ones w.e.f. 1-4-1959.

(d) None so far, Sanction for the creation of additional permanent posts in M.E.S. is however expected to be issued shortly.

Territorial Army and Naval Reserves

397. Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that applications for admission to the Territorial Army and Naval Reserves are not being acknowledged; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not acknowledging these applications?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) and (b). Hitherto applications for admission to the Territorial Army and Naval Reserves have not been acknowledged as in most cases interviews are arranged or other steps for the selection are taken soon after receipt of the applications. Instructions have however now been issued to the effect that all such applications should be acknowledged.

Trip to Kashmir by Handicapped Students

398. { **Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda:**
Shri S. A. Mehdi:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Minister of Education be

pleased to state:

(a) whether students and handicapped children were sent to Kashmir in May 1961; and

(b) if so, the total amount spent and through which agency?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Sharimali): (a) and (b). Yes Sir; the Occupational Therapy Institute, New Delhi, which is a private institution, sent a batch of 39 handicapped students to Kashmir during this summer. The Central Social Welfare Board gave a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,550/- to the Institute to meet the expenses of 15 children, 3 attendants and 2 teachers for holding a holiday camp in Kashmir. The grant was released through the Indian Council for Child Welfare, New Delhi. The expenses of the remaining Children were met by their guardians.

Life Sketches of Soldiers of Independence Struggle

399. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1224 on 1st April, 1961 and state the further progress made in States under the scheme of publication of brief life sketches of the soldiers of the struggle for Independence of India?

The Minister of Scientific Research And Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The State Governments are taking necessary action to compile the State lists.

Enrolment Form of the Air Force

400. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1240 on the 1st April, 1961 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the proposal to amend the enrolment form in the Air Force in