

grant in each case is limited to Rs. 25,000/- or 50% of the cost of construction, whichever is less.

(b) No proposal has so far been received for financial assistance for the construction of sports stadium at Jhargram, in the district of Midnapore, West Bengal.

Shaktiman Trucks

917. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) what is the production of Shaktiman trucks up-to-date;

(b) what is the per centage of truck parts manufactured locally; and

(c) what is the price of this Shaktiman truck?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Up to the end of July 1961, a total of 2050 Shaktiman Trucks have been completed.

(b) The indigenous content of the vehicles in production is approximately 43%. This will increase to 57.4% by the end of the current financial year.

(c) The actual cost of a Shaktiman Truck complete with Rear body and Military fittings, for the financial year 1959-60, is Rs. 37,368.81 nP.

Finance Minister's visit to Orissa

918. Shri Kunhan: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Orissa State any time during the month of May, 1961;

(b) if so, the places visited in the State;

(c) the time spent in those places; and

(d) the expenses incurred thereon?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes. In his private capacity.

831 (Ai) LSD—4.

(b) Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Bolangir, Kantabanji, Bhangamunda, Titlagarh and Sundargarh.

(c) About 5 days.

(d) Question does not arise, since the entire expenditure in Orissa was borne by the President, Utkal Pradesh Congress Committee. The expenditure on travelling to and from Orissa was borne by the Minister himself and not by Government.

Naval Excursions

919. Shri Kistaiya: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent during the last three years on Naval Excursions which are held yearly for the M.P.s;

(b) when the same is likely to be held this year; and

(c) mode of selection of M.P.s. for this?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) to (c). No Naval Excursions as such are held yearly for the Members of Parliament, and the question of expenditure in that connection does not therefore arise. Exercises are, however, conducted annually in September to assess the operational efficiency of the Fleet during the Fleet's passage from Cochin to Bombay. A few Members of Parliament are invited in consultation with the Department of Parliamentary Affairs to witness these exercises. Their number is necessarily limited according to availability of space on board the ships. These exercises are scheduled to be held from the 19th to 23rd September this year.

Contracts with Foreign Countries

920. Shri Kistaiya: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of contracts which Ministry of Defence are having at present directly with the different countries of the world;

(b) the total amount of foreign exchange spent over them so far;