

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) to (c). The Executive Board was scheduled to meet on the 13th August, 1961 to consider the matter. The decision of the Akademi has not yet been communicated to the Government.

Archaeological Excavations in Madras Etc.

1032. { Shri Sugandhi:
Shri Agadi:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals for Archaeological explorations in Madras, Andhra, Mysore, Maharashtra and Kerala States to be undertaken in 1961-62; and

(b) if so, the places proposed to be excavated?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) and (b). The programme for explorations during 1961-62 has not yet been finalised.

Wheel Barrows for Removing night Soil in Punjab

1033. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have given any grants to Punjab Government for the purchase of small carts and wheel barrows for removing night soil in municipal areas; and

(b) the details of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Yes sir.

(b) In the Second Plan, grants were given by the Central Government to the State Governments, for assisting local bodies for the purchase of wheel barrows and handcarts for removing

night soil so as to put an end to the practice of night soil being carried by scavengers as headloads, subject to the condition that 50% of the cost of such equipment was borne by the local body concerned, whether with or without the assistance of State Governments.

Oil Storage Depot

1034. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge oil storage depot is proposed to be erected in North Madras;

(b) if so, at what cost; and

(c) whether a site for the same has been acquired?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). An oil installation with a storage capacity of 12,000 tonnes is proposed to be erected at Tondiarpeth, Madras. A suitable site has been tentatively selected, and enquiries regarding its price etc. are being made. The cost of constructing this installation has been estimated at Rs. 30 lacs.

Provident Fund for Industrial Workers

1035. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many civilian employees including industrial workers who were working in Defence establishments have not received their provident fund benefits after retirement;

(b) the number of such cases on 1st June, 1961;

(c) the number of those cases which are more than a year old; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite finalisation of those cases?

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

required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Instructions have been issued to settle provident fund claims within a month of discharge or retirement of the employees.

Customs House, Madras

1036. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the building of the Customs House opposite the Beach station in Madras was demolished more than five years ago;

(b) if so, whether a new building is under construction there;

(c) when the construction work was begun;

(d) how long it will take to complete the work; and

(e) the reasons for the delay in completion of the work?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The demolition of the old Custom House building at Madras was completed on 20th November 1957.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 6th December 1957.

(d) The building is expected to be completed by end of 1963.

(e) The contractor to whom the work of pile foundations was awarded did not execute the work to the satisfaction of the Central Public Works Department as the tests made indicated that the piles could not withstand the designed load. There was protracted correspondence resulting in the termination of the original contract. The pile foundation work was awarded to another contractor and has since been completed.

Punjab High Court

1037. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the total number of cases pending in Punjab High Court for more than two years, three years and four years?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

Post-Matric Scholarships to Backward Classes in Punjab

**1038. { Shri Daljit Singh:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total sum demanded and sanctioned to Punjab Government for award of Post-Matric Scholarships to students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes during 1961-62 so far;

(b) whether the amount has been fully utilised; and

(c) the number of students benefited by it in the State?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The amount sanctioned to the Government of Punjab for the award of Post-Matric Scholarships to students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, with the break-up of the amount for the three categories is given below:—

| Total amount sanctioned | Amount sanctioned for | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| | Scheduled Castes | Scheduled Tribes | Other Backward Classes |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 15,36,500 | 14,47,200 | 32,500 | 56,800 |