

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