

(c) The last date for exercising option has not yet expired. It is therefore premature to say how many would opt for pension.

(d) Yes, Sir, under the New Pension Rules.

Repair of Vehicles by Contractors

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

(a) whether vehicles are being repaired in M.E.S. Ambala Cantt. by the local contractors;

(b) whether some arrangements also exist for repair in M.E.S. workshops;

(c) if so, the reason for getting this work done through contractors;

(d) the amount paid to contractors during 1960-61 and 1962 upto 30th June; and

(e) steps taken by Government to discontinue this system?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) In the local MES workshop, facilities do not exist for major overhaul of vehicles. Work beyond the capacity of the MES workshop is, therefore, entrusted to private workshops.

(d) the amounts paid to contractors for repairs are as under:—

1-4-60 to 31.3.61—Rs. 21,136.91.

This includes Rs. 15,393.91 on account of cost of spares and materials.

1.4.61 to 30.6.62—Rs. 15,948.39.

This includes Rs. 12,235.39 on account of cost of spares and materials.

(e) No steps are being taken to discontinue the existing practice, as it will not be economical to set up an MES workshop with capacity to

undertake major overhaul of vehicles on account of limited repair load.

Cracker Explosion in Delhi

863. { **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cracker exploded in Chandni Chowk, Delhi on the 25th June, 1962; and

(b) if so, whether any arrests have been made in this connection?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Two persons who were responsible for the explosion were arrested on the spot and subsequently prosecuted. They have since been convicted.

Suicides

864. { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by Government in the conditions and causes of suicides; and

(b) if so, what are the conclusions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) No such study has been made by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Loans to States

865. { **Shri G. K. Singha:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Basumatari:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) which are the States that have

been given loans without any condition since 1955;

(b) what is the total amount of loan outstanding under such condition;

(c) whether any amount has been paid back; and

(d) if so, whether it was paid with interest or without interest?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The terms and conditions of the loans are generally settled at the time of their sanction. However, in a few cases of loans sanctioned to the States of Mysore, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh the terms and conditions have not yet been finalised.

(b) Rs. 37.60 crores.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Exploitation of Mineral Resources in Madras

866. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have taken any steps to exploit various mineral resources finds in Tiruchi District of Madras State during the recent geological survey of the area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) No, Sir. The occurrences of mineral deposits in the Tiruchi District are either too small or uneconomical for being taken up for exploitation by the Central Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Suicide in Rourkela Steel Plant

**867. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri G. Mohanty:**

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether a report has been received from the police about the alleged suicide of Shri S. N. Misra of Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the findings of the police; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The police have finally reported the case as 'human missing'.

(c) It is a matter for the Government of Orissa.

Fixation of Salary of I.C.S. Officers

868. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 76 on the 23rd April, 1962 and state whether any final decision has since been reached towards the fixation of salary of I.C.S. officers in the posts created after 14th August, 1947?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The matter is still under consideration.

L.I.C. Premium through Post Offices

{ Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri B. K. Das:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Life Insurance Corporation of India propose to collect premium through Post Offices;

(b) if so, whether it has been introduced in any Post Office on an experimental basis; and