

requested to re-examine the 'curricula' and consider the feasibility of viva voce as part of the secondary school examination; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Government Education Ministers and other State authorities?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran): (a) No formal request as such has been sent to the State Governments; but, in a recent Conference of the Chairmen and Secretaries of the Boards of Secondary Education, Education Minister drew attention to the possibility of introducing viva voce in the secondary school examination.

(b) These reactions have not been received in the Government of India.

Finds at Pandu Raja's Dhibi Burdwan

***648. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to press reports of the discovery of Cretan scripts and pictographs on proto-historic stone seals found at Pandu Raja's Dhibi in Burdwan (West Bengal); and

(b) if so, the significance of such finds in relation to Indian historical development?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The excavations are being carried out by the Government of West Bengal. The authenticity of the interpretation given to the finds has yet to be established.

Personality Test in All India Services Examination

***650.** { Shri Yashpal Singh;
Shri Sarjoo Pandey;
Shri D. C. Sharma.

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given

to Starred Question No. 484 on the 4th September, 1963 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken in the matter of reduction of marks for personality test for All India Services Examination; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-2168/63.*]

Conversion of Oil Companies into Rupee Companies

{ Shri Ramachandra Ulaka;
Shri N. R. Laskar;
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena;
***651.** Shrimati Savitri Nigam;
Shri Morarka;
Shri Ravindra Varma;

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 197 on the 21st August, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the tentative proposals of conversion of distributing companies into Rupee Companies, made by ESSO, Burmah-Shell and Caltex Oil Companies have since been examined; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir):

(a) and (b). The tentative proposals made by Esso, Burmah-Shell and Caltex Oil Companies are still under examination.

Meeting of Council for Secondary Education

{ Shri P. C. Borooah;
Shri H. C. Soy;
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad;
***652.** { Shri Maheswar Naik;
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda;
Shri Vasudevan Nair;
Shri Dhaon;