

The Fund is proposed to be made up of the following:—

- (i) Every vakalat to be filed by an Advocate shall in addition to the court fee stamp leviable, be affixed with a Provident Fund stamp of the value of one rupee,
- (ii) the amount collected by the Government under Chapter VIII of the Kerala Court Fees and Suits Valuation Act.

#### Cost of Tea Production

\*136. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state the steps taken to reduce the cost of production and supply of Indian tea to make it more competitive in foreign markets?

**The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(i) The export duty on tea was abolished with effect from 1-3-1963.

(ii) The basic excise duty on green tea has been reduced by 5 n.P. per kilogram with effect from 18-11-63.

(iii) With a view to improving the quality of tea, the Tea Board have put into operation the Hire-Purchase Scheme involving a total financial outlay of Rs. 5 crores for the supply of tea machinery, irrigation equipment to tea factories, tea gardens,

(iv) To assist the tea industry to increase the yield, the Tea Plantation Finance Scheme has been in force since October 1962. This Scheme is aimed at enabling the industry to carry out replantation/new plantation with loans from the Tea Board. A revolving fund of Rs. 5 crores has been sanctioned for the purpose.

(v) Government are meeting in full the requirements of the industry of nitrogenous fertilisers in the form of neat Sulphate of Ammonia.

#### Microscopes Factory

\*137. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**  
**Shrimati Renuka Barkatki:**  
**Shri D. D. Mantri:**

Will the Minister of **Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been reached for setting up of a Microscopes Factory in collaboration with Japan;

(b) if so, when the factory will go into operation; and

(c) the broad feature of the agreement?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes, Sir; an agreement has been reached by a private firm in Delhi for the manufacture of microscopes and optics in collaboration with a Japanese firm.

(b) The firm is expected to go into operation early in 1964.

(c) The agreement involves equity participation by the foreign firm to cover the cost of plant and machinery to be imported. No payment on account of royalty or technical know-how is involved.

#### Sale of Cars by S.T.C.

\*138. { **Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:**  
**Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:**  
**Shri Morarka:**  
**Shri Ravindra Varma:**

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cars of foreign makes sold so far by the State Trading Corporation; and

(b) the total amount realised in this connection?

**The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) 179.

(b) It will not be in the public interest to disclose sale prices of indi-