

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held; and

(c) whether any arrangement has been made for sending more students to West Germany for getting technical training?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI SHER SINGH):** (a) Yes, Sir. The discussion was held separately with the Education Minister and officers of the Ministry.

(b) and (c). It was agreed that India should participate more vigorously in the training programme under the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience Scheme and a large number of Indian graduates in Engineering and Technology should be found places for training in the Federal Republic of Germany. The exact numbers of training places required have not been worked out.

**Sheikh Abdullah's visit to Pakistan**

4477. **SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA:**

**SHRI D.C. SHARMA:**

Will the MINISTER of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been urged by certain quarters to allow Sheikh Abdullah to visit Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Distribution of Currency Notes in Madras**

4478. **SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Patriot' dated the 20th November, 1968 regarding the free distribution of currency notes of ten and hundred rupee denominations to the slum dwellers in Madras by Mr. Novel Alexander Nacol an American National;

(b) if so, whether Government have obtained a report regarding the activities of Mr. Nacol;

(c) if so, the result thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) Government have seen the press report.

(b) to (d). According to information received from the local authorities Mr. Novel Alexander Nacol distributed currency notes to some poor and aged persons in the outskirts of Madras City. He never spoke to those who received money from him nor did he expect anything in return. The notes distributed were genuine. He did not come to adverse notice and he seems to have acted from purely generous motives. The question of taking any action in the matter did not therefore arise. He left India on 23rd November, 1968.

**Bridge at Baliapatam on West Coast Road**

4479. **SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :**  
**SHRI P. GOPALAN :**

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken to construct a road bridge at Baliapatam for the West Coast Road;

(b) if so, when the work is proposed to start;

(c) the total amount sanctioned therefor; and

(d) when the work will be completed?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN):**  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). An estimate for the construction of the bridge proper amounting to Rs. 41.33 lakhs is under consideration. As soon as it is sanctioned, tenders will be invited and the contract awarded to the successful tenderer. Thereafter, work will commence on the actual construction of the bridge. An estimate for Rs. 14 lakhs