

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) As imported kerosene cannot be distinguished from indigenously produced kerosene, it is difficult to say how much of imported kerosene is being used for cooking purposes. Further, estimates regarding consumption of kerosene for cooking purposes made by various organisations are so varied that it is difficult to indicate even a rough figure for this.

(b) No action is being taken.

Industries for Research

2449. Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Utiya:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 298 on the 2nd March, 1966 and state the names of the Industries which have taken the decision to set apart five per cent of their turnover for expenditure on research and development?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): The recommendation of the Get-Together on Research and Industry that industrial establishments should set apart up to 5 per cent of their turnover for expenditure on research and development is still under examination.

Employment for Handicapped

2450. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper arrangements have not been made to take the help of social workers or organisations to persuade the various employers to provide employment to the handicapped people by the one-man Employment Exchange for the handicapped people in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Social workers and social

organisations are already actively associated with the working of the Special Employment Exchange for the Physically Handicapped, Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

Central Training Institute for Women

2451. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Training Institute for Women, Curzon Road, New Delhi, has expanded considerably during the last five years, but the staff has not been increased according to the expansion; and

(b) whether the staff members and Principals have been given the same grade and same facilities of T.A. and D.A. and the same status as is being enjoyed by the staff in the Training Institute for Men?

The Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Jagjivan Ram) (a) The training capacity was expanded from 32 in 1961 to 116 in 1963, which is continuing. Additional staff for expanded capacity has been provided.

(b) Yes, except the Principal who is a part-time officer and allowed Rs. 150 p.m. as Special Pay in addition to her salary etc. as Principal, Industrial Training Institute for Women under the Delhi Administration.

Wage Board for Scavengers

2452. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision has been taken to set up either a Wage Board or a Commission to go into the wages and working conditions of the scavengers in the country; and

(b) if not, when a final decision is likely to be taken?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The proposal under the

consideration of Government is to set up a Study Group to go into the working and Service conditions (including wages) of sweepers and scavengers. The decision is expected to be announced soon.

Whips' Conference

2453. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the **Minister of Parliamentary Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the last Whips' Conference had recommended for periodical consultation between the Whips' of various parties at the Centre during the session periods;

(b) if so, how far this recommendation has been given effect to at the Centre?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jagannatha Rao): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three meetings between Government Whips' and Whips' of the Opposition have already been held during the current session.

Official Languages Act

2454. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri A. V. Raghavan:
Shri Muthiah:

Will the **Minister of Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring forward legislation to amend the Official Languages Act, 1963 which was shelved due to the conflict with Pakistan; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Scholarships

2455. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the **Minister of Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the present National Scholarships Scheme, only city-dwellers are benefited;

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove this lacuna so that students from rural areas may also take the benefit?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundararam Ramachandran): (a) No, Sir. The selections are made strictly in order of merit from the Merit Lists of the various examinations subject to a Means Test. A number of students from the rural areas do find a place in the merit lists.

(b) Does not arise.

'Outstanding Telephone Revenues

2456. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri D. J. Naik:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

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

(a) the total amount of arrears of Telephone revenue outstanding at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the specific steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the results achieved thereby?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jagannatha Rao): (a) The amount of arrears as on 1-4-1966 for bills issued upto 30-9-1965 was as follows:

	(in thousands of rupees)
Assam	35.43
Andhra	7.30
Bihar]	9.00