

thefts of beautiful sculpture have taken place;

(d) whether it is also a fact that even descriptive name plates have not been placed before these caves and sculptures inside them and there is no arrangement of guides to explain the sculptures to thousands of students and visitors who visit these caves daily; and

(e) if so, what steps Government contemplate towards proper up-keep and renovation of these national treasures?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some books mention this but the veracity of such statement has not been established.

(c) No, Sir. The cave temples are being well looked after by the Archaeological Survey of India ever since they were taken over for protection as monuments of national importance in 1951. No thefts of sculptures have been reported since then.

(d) No, Sir. Labels identifying sculptures have been provided in the important caves at Ellora. At Ajanta, as the descriptive scenes or *Jataka* scenes are often grouped and intermixed, such labels instead of being a help are likely to cause confusion. At Ellora in addition to a Departmental Guide Lecturer there are two local licensed guides. Similarly at Ajanta there is one local licenced guide. In addition to these the Department of Tourism will shortly issue licences to sixteen guides both for Ajanta and Ellora.

(e) Repairs and other measures for preservation of these national treasures are undertaken as and when found necessary.

Beating of A Ph.D. Student in I. A. R. I.,
New Delhi

*119. SHRI DEVEN SEN:
SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:
SHRI D. N. PATODIA:
SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM:
SHRI M. L. SONDHII:

SHRI CHENGALRAYA
NAIDU:

SHRI B. K. DAS CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Ph.D. student of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi was beaten by the Police on the 4th January, 1969 after being stopped from going to the farm on which he was working and which was to be shown to the Shah of Iran during his visit to Delhi;

(b) whether an inquiry has been conducted into the matter; and

(c) if so, the result thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) A complaint in this behalf was received.

(b) The Sub Divisional Magistrate, Tughlak Road, New Delhi, was directed to hold an inquiry into the matter.

(c) The Sub Divisional Magistrate examined 23 witnesses besides the research scholar who was alleged to have been beaten, and the police official who was alleged to have beaten him. He came to the conclusion, on the basis of evidence recorded by him that the allegation of beating of the research scholar has not been substantiated.

Abolition of Octroi

*120. SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF:
Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to direct the State Governments to abolish octroi as quickly as possible since it is a great hindrance in the economic development of the country apart from being a source of corruption; and

(b) whether Government propose to suggest to State Governments any other substitute source of income in place of

octroi and issue special directive therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH):

(a) and (b). No, Sir.

Assignments Given to Retired Supreme Court Judges

560. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Supreme Court judges who retired during the last five years with dates of their retirement and particulars of their monthly pensions;

(b) the names of those from the above list who were given assignments on committees or commissions with starting and ending dates of such assignments in each case and name or particulars of the assignments with the total emoluments earned by each during the period of assignment by way of salary or compensation and travelling allowance paid to each;

(c) whether it is a fact that the expectation of getting committee or commission work after retirement often influences the minds of some Supreme Court judges and has a definite effect in cases filed by Government; and

(d) the reasons why these Superannuated judges, who richly deserve rest, are again drafted into service in spite of strict limitations of age and memory as observed in many?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in library. See No. LT-70/69*]

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir. There is not the remotest reason for such an inference.

(d) Retired judges are usually appointed to positions involving functions of judicial or quasi-judicial nature. It is not always possible to requisition the services of serving judges to hold such positions. Having regard to the public confidence enjoyed by the judiciary, and the ability and impartiality with which retired judges have been performing the functions entrusted to them it is clearly in the public interest that the practice should not be discontinued.

Prosecution of Newspapers

561. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of editors and periodicals prosecuted under Section 153A of the I. P. C. since the meeting of the National Integration Council held in Srinagar;

(b) the names of those acquitted or convicted with the nature of convictions so far;

(c) whether Government propose to withdraw all the cases now that the mid-term elections in various States are over and there is no necessity of wooing any particular community for votes; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in library. See No. LT-71/69*]

(c) and (d). No, Sir. None of the prosecutions has been launched for "wooing any particular community for votes."

India Tourism Development Corporation

562. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the date of inception of the India Tourism Development Corporation and