

INDIAN INFORMATION

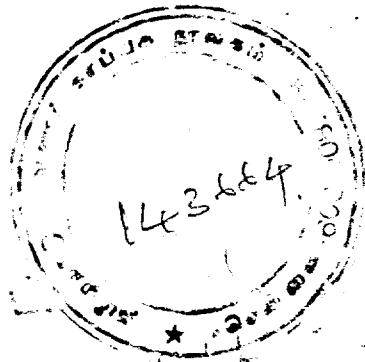
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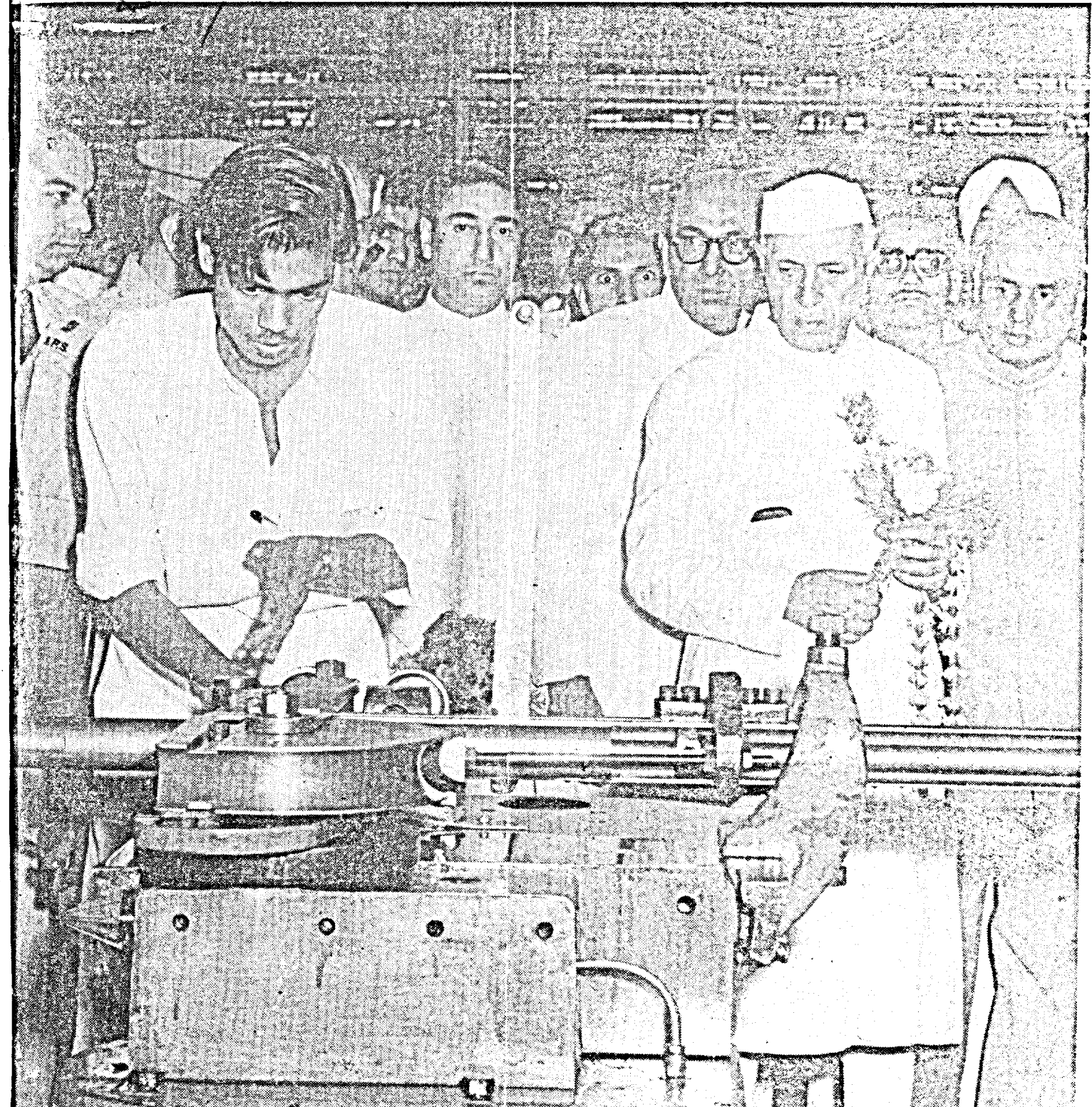
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Vol. 3

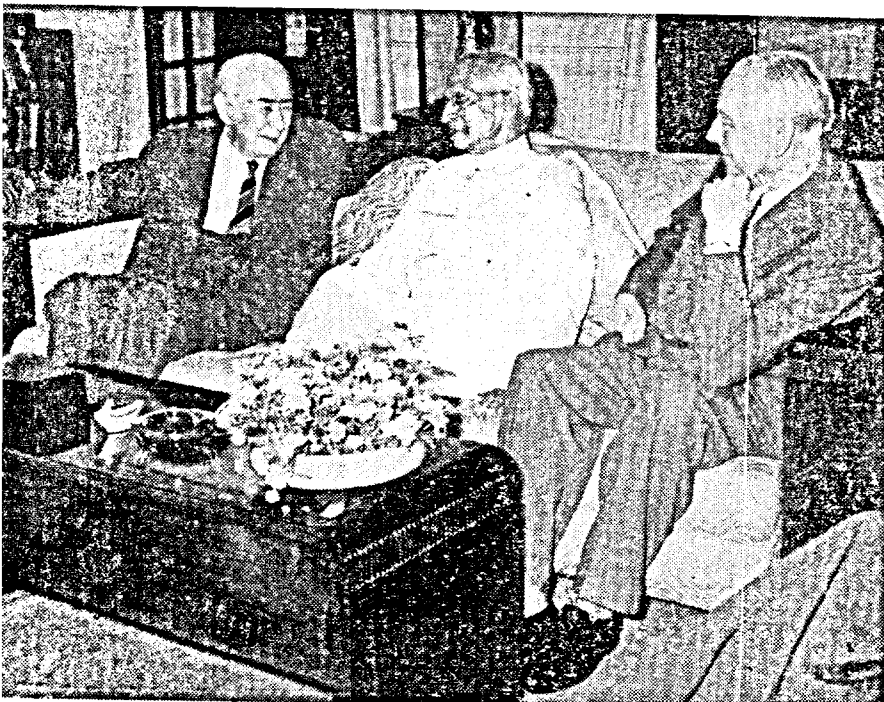
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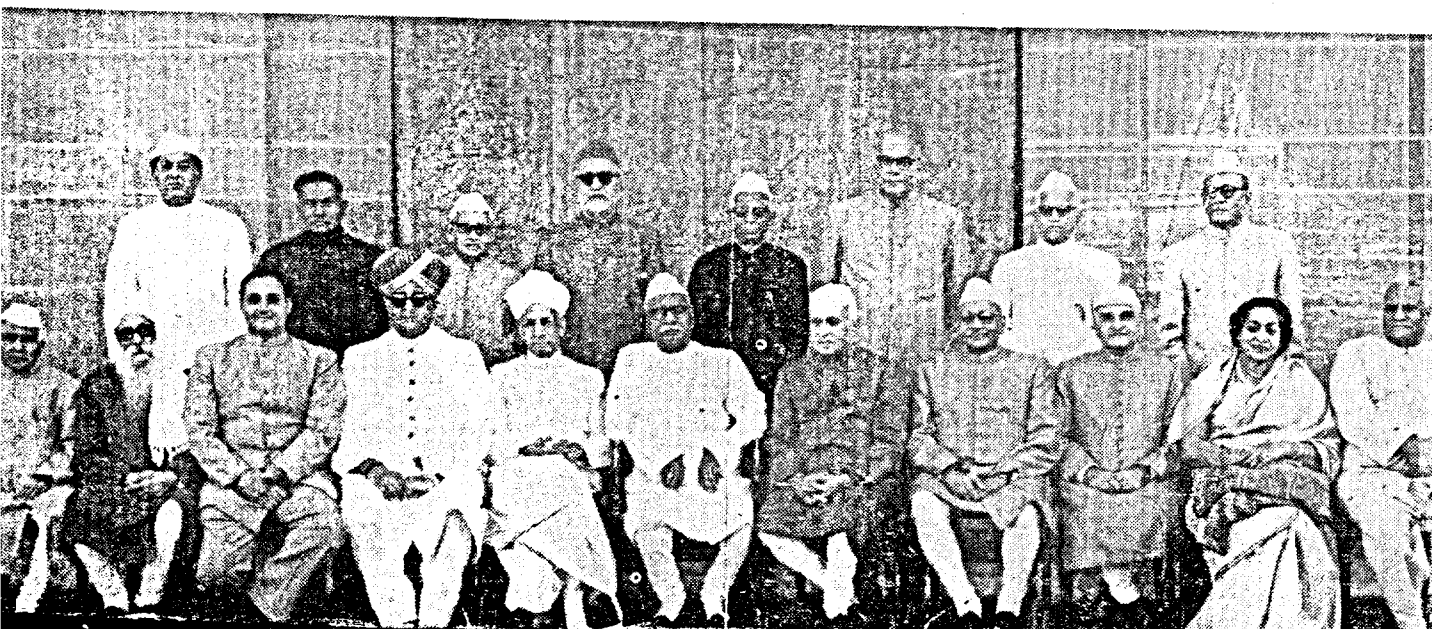




Sir Paul Gore-Booth, High Commissioner—designate for the United Kingdom, presenting his letter of Commission to the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, at Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 5



Dr. Theodor Heuss, former President of the Federal Republic of Germany, with the Vice-President, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, when he called on the Vice-President at New Delhi on November 3



The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, with the State Governors on the occasion of their annual conference at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 8

Indian Information

VOL. 3

December 1, 1960
Agrahayana 10, 1882

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(Indian Information seeks to provide a condensed record of the activities and official announcements of the Government of India. Because of space limitation many items appear in summarized form. Such items should not be treated as complete and authoritative versions).

Political & General

FOURTH WHITE PAPER ON SINO-INDIAN BORDER DISPUTES

The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 14, the day on which the House began its winter session, another White Paper containing notes, memoranda and letters exchanged between New Delhi and Peking between March and November this year. This White Paper, fourth in the series, relates to correspondence on border issues and incidents, Sino-Indian boundary dispute, territorial waters and air space, treatment of Indian

representatives and nationals, and complaints and representations from the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi.

VIOLATION OF SPACE

In a note, dated October 24, the Government of India referred to 52 violations of their air space and said that it was difficult to believe that the planes, which violated the Indian air space in the western sector of the Sino-Indian boundary, were based anywhere other than on

the Chinese territory. The note lists further instances of violation. On September 18, Indian air space was violated by a helicopter which flew in from Western Tibet and was clearly of Chinese origin. As recently as October 13, two armed Chinese personnel on horses intruded upto points approximately one and a half miles east of Hot Springs in the Kongka Pass area in Ladakh. The Chinese personnel withdrew only when they were surprised by an Indian grass-cutter.

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The note points out that these instances are in violation of the understanding reached between the two Prime Ministers that, while talks at the official level continued, the two Governments would avoid taking steps which might precipitate border clashes or friction. India has asked China to instruct the subordinate authorities concerned to take scrupulous care that such violations of her ground and air space do not recur. India, the note emphasises, observes the utmost vigilance about the protection of her frontiers, whether on the ground or in the air, and is determined to take action against all intruders, whatever their origin.

CHINESE ALLEGATIONS

In another note of the same date, India has rejected as lacking in substance the Chinese allegations of intrusion into her ground or air space. It says that, at the times mentioned in the Chinese note, no aircraft was flying anywhere in the neighbourhood of the specified areas, either in the eastern or the western sector or along Sikkim's border with the Tibet region. India had also repudiated the suggestion that a Chinese national was kidnapped from Chinese territory by an Indian patrol party. The particular Chinese national had repeatedly affirmed in the course of interrogation that he had come to seek refuge in India.

The note also expresses the Government of India's surprise at the assertion in the Chinese note that Indian official personnel had entered Bara Hoti and forcibly occupied the lodging of Chinese mountaineers. The note says that it is hardly necessary to recall that India has throughout maintained that Bara Hoti, which the Chinese Government called Wuje, lies south of the traditional boundary and is clearly within Indian territory.

TREATMENT TO INDIAN NATIONALS

A more recent note, dated November 9, says that Indian pilgrims, traders and the Indian Trade Agency in Western Tibet suffer severe handicaps and difficulties which render virtually nugatory

the provisions of the 1954 Agreement regarding trade and intercourse between India and the Tibet region of China. It says that, as in 1959, the Indian Trade Agent's stay in Western Tibet this year was not only curtailed but almost rendered infructuous. He was not accorded the treatment which he had the right to expect as an accredited representative of a friendly country performing his legitimate duties in accordance with a valid and binding international agreement. India trusts, the note goes on, that the Chinese Government would take suitable steps to look into these difficulties and ensure necessary and customary facilities to the traders and the pilgrims and also provide the usual facilities to the Indian Trade Agent at Gartok to enable him to discharge his normal duties in accordance with the principles of the 1954 Agreement.

BHUTAN AND SIKKIM

The White Paper also contains an informal note, dated April 25, which underlines India's responsibility for the external relations of Bhutan and Sikkim under treaties with these two States. It says that the question relating to the northern boundaries of Sikkim and Bhutan has to be considered at the same time as the boundary between India and China. The informal note also refers to propaganda reports of China's intention to take military steps to occupy these territories and says that in the interest of

restoring Sino-Indian relations and removing apprehensions, such propaganda would be stopped and India's responsibility for the external relations of Sikkim and Bhutan fully understood and respected.

About the families of Kashmiri Muslims residing in the Lhasa area and a few hundred Ladakhi Lamās now in the Tibet region, the note says, India's information is that they are extremely anxious to return home. Apart from the Indians wishing to leave Tibet, there are about 22 Indian nationals reported to be under arrest. According to the 1954 Agreement, they should have been treated as foreigners and, in any case, provided with opportunity to seek the help of the local Indian representatives.

ENCLAVES

About enclaves, the note says, it is hoped that the Chinese Government will respect the sovereign rights of the Jammu and Kashmir Government, and therefore of the Government of India, over Minsar in Western Tibet. Similarly, in accordance with the representation made last year, the control of Bhutan should be restored over the Bhutan enclaves near Kailash in Western Tibet. The note also requests that Sikkimese nationals who have been residing in certain estates of the Chumbi valley and, by tradition, are treated as distinct from Tibetans, might continue to receive the traditional treatment and allowed facilities of movement to Sikkim.

BURMESE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO INDIA

His Excellency U Nu, Prime Minister of Burma, arrived in Calcutta on November 10 on a ten-day visit to India. He arrived in New Delhi the next day. A State banquet was held in his honour at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 13.

Speaking at the banquet, the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, said, "We have met to accord a warm welcome to the Prime Minister of Burma and yet, it seems a little curious to me that we should be a little formal about this welcome, because he is not a formal person to

us nor are we, I hope, formal to him. It has been our privilege to welcome him often in this country and in this city of Delhi. He comes as a friend, a dear friend. He comes casually and he goes also casually, without fuss or ceremony. That is as it should be, not only because of our abiding friendship and old relations between the two countries of Burma and India, our long contacts in the past, but also because you, Sir, Mr. Prime Minister, are particularly welcome here for a variety of reasons peculiar to you."

Shri Nehru continued, "This world, Janus-like, is two-faced—the good face and the evil face. When you come, the evil face recedes—the evil face of the world, and only the good face is evident and so our spirits rise within us and our hopes also rise, and we feel the better for it. If most of us had that capacity to spread serenity and calm which you possess, Mr. Prime Minister, it would be good for the world, and our problems would be easier of solution. Yet, in spite of this evil face of the world which sometimes shows itself, I believe that essentially we are passing through these very difficult phases to something much better for the world and we see this awakening for a better life or better thinking, for better cooperation and more friendliness peeping out in many places. We see and we have seen the whole of Asia astir. We are now seeing Africa in a state of ferment, full of hope and expectation, full of vitality and also full of difficulties; but those difficulties, I suppose, anywhere, are the price we pay for moving forward."

The Prime Minister concluded, "In this moving dynamic and exciting world, it is good to have the friendship of countries and the friendship of individuals like yourself who are helping so much in various ways and almost, if I may say so, particularly by the mere fact of what you are, in developing and encouraging these friendly relations among the nations of the world. So you are welcome, Sir, as the representative of a country which is dear to us and near to us."

U NU'S REPLY

In reply, His Excellency U Nu said, "Happily on the foundation of tradition of friendship and of a strong sense of solidarity, our two countries have developed in recent years a fundamentally similar approach to the various problems with which the world is faced today. In this age of super-States and power blocs, India, Burma and other like-minded countries have an indispensable role to play to help preserve world peace and promote friendly relations and co-operation among nations. We therefore welcome the gradual increase in the number of States which subscribe to the same basic policy in inter-

national affairs. We also welcome the fact that these countries have been drawn closer together, not by any pact or alliance but by the solidarity and by the similarity of their basic approach to the international situation with which we are confronted today and that they have together made many a useful intervention in the interest of international peace and security."

PASSPORT RESTRICTION WITHDRAWN

A Press Note issued on November 15 by the Ministry of External Affairs says that in November 1959, the Government of India decided that Indian passport holders, who were illiterate or semi-literate and did not know English and who intended to proceed to the United Kingdom or other Western countries, should be required to obtain a clearance certificate from the Regional Passport Officers before departure from India.

As a result of the various steps taken since then, the situation has now greatly improved. Government have, therefore, decided that intending travellers who are in possession of valid passports should no longer be required to obtain further clearance certificates from the Regional Passport Officers. Necessary instructions have been issued to checkposts and all others concerned.

GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE

The President inaugurated the State Governors' Conference in New Delhi on November 8 with a speech, in which he reviewed the principal events during the year that has gone by since the last conference. He touched particularly on the happenings in Assam and Punjab. On the economic side, he stressed the questions of employment and economic development of the border areas.

On the first day, the Conference discussed the economic situation in the country. The Governors gave an appreciation of the conditions

QUEEN'S VISIT

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh will pay a State visit to India early in 1961.

They will arrive in Delhi from London on January 21 and will remain in India until the end of that month, when they go to Pakistan for a 15-day State visit. On February 16, the Queen and the Duke will return to India where they will stay until February 26, when they leave for Kathmandu. The Royal party will return to India on March 1 and leave for a State Visit to Iran on March 2.

The emphasis throughout the tour will be on occasions when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh can see as much of India and of India's people as possible. There will be a number of formal and official functions and receptions, but there will be many other less formal functions. In Delhi the Queen and the Duke will attend the Republic Day Parade and the Mayor and the citizens will be hosts to the Queen at a reception at the Ram Lila grounds.

Among the more informal occasions, the Queen and the Duke will attend Church on each Sunday during their stay in India: in Delhi, Calcutta and Varanasi. The Queen and the Duke will see displays by Indian youth organisations, and will attend a number of cultural performances, including folk dancing. In Banaras, Agra and in Rajasthan, among other places, they will see some of the glories of India's historic past. They will see examples of India's economic and industrial development under the Five-Year Plans.

In Calcutta and Bombay the Queen and the Duke will go to the races.

in their respective States. Employment, food production and food prices were the main topics of discussion.

SECOND DAY SESSION

On the second day, the law and order situation in the country was discussed. The Home Minister, Shri Govind Ballabh Pant, initiated the discussion. He was followed by the Governors who gave an appraisal of the law and order situation in their respective States.

In the afternoon on the second day, the Prime Minister gave a resume of the international situation. He touched upon the result of the American presidential election, the questions of disarmament, Congo and the Sino-Indian border dispute.

The Conference concluded on November 9.

Study Of Panchayat Courts

According to an announcement of November 1, the Government of India have appointed a three-man team to study the system of panchayat courts in the country and to suggest possible improvements.

The team will visit the States, study their reports and also associate the State officials with the job.

The main item for the study team is how to make the panchayat courts organs to dispense speedy, cheap and impartial justice. What steps should be taken to popularise these courts in areas where they are not firmly established is another item for the study.

In their fourteenth report, the Law Commission had recommended, among other things, that simple cases be entrusted to panchayats and that the panchayat courts be popularised. These recommendations were discussed recently by the State Law Ministers who suggested that a committee be set up to go into the question of composition, functions and working of the panchayat courts.

Jail Reforms In Union Territories

A New Delhi announcement of November 4 says that the Union Territories—Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands—have introduced in their jails several reforms to give to the prisoners a balanced and nutritious diet, clothing, industrial work, vocational training, educational facilities, etc.

In Delhi, a modern jail has been built and it has been provided with amenities like electricity, flush-system, space for sports and games, recreation and cultural activities, training in crafts, separate wards for women and children, and treatment of T.B. and leprosy patients.

A wage-earning scheme has been introduced, whereby prisoners qualify for an extra wage for putting more than the allotted work. Part of the wages can be utilized at the jail canteen, offering cigarettes, toilet articles, etc. The remaining amount can be collected at the time of release.

After release, the prisoners are allowed to stay in a separate building for 15 to 20 days so that they may look for some employment. The jail authorities also help them in their rehabilitation.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Himachal Pradesh has an open-air jail, without walls and without bars. In other jails in the territory, newspapers, radio sets, out-door games, etc., are provided. Part-time teachers have been engaged to impart education and training in certain industries and crafts to prisoners.

The Manipur Administration has increased the scale of diet and the quantity of vegetables for each prisoner. Like other territories, there are liberal rules for release of prisoners on parole and furlough. Industrial and vocational training is also available to the prisoners.

TRIPURA

The wage-earning scheme has also been introduced in Tripura, and the canteen facilities are also available to the prisoners. Provision has been made for improved food, clothing, sanitation, ventilation, lighting, etc. Side by side, the jails have libraries, radio sets, newspapers, magazines, educational and vocational training facilities.

In the Andaman and Nicobar Islands prisoners are learning Hindi. They have also training facilities in weaving, tailoring, blacksmithy, and coir and rope-making.

Jail reforms have also been introduced in other parts of the country. Most of the States had appointed their own 'Jail Reforms Committees' for the purpose and have taken action in the light of the recommendations made by them.

CENSUS IN PONDICHERRY

A New Delhi announcement of November 5 says that, according to the provisional count taken in the four former French possessions—Pondicherry, Karikal, Mahe and Yanam, these territories have more women than men. The provisional enumeration came to 3,59,138 persons. Women total 1,81,053 and men 1,78,085, a difference of 2,968.

The area-wise details of the figures are: Pondicherry—249,087 (Males 1,25,022 and Females 1,24,065); Karikal—82,207 (Males 39,946 and Females 42,261); Mahe—20,400 (Males 9,466 and Females 10,934); and Yanam—7,444 (Males 3,651 and Females 3,793).

CENSUS IN LEH AND POONCH

A New Delhi announcement of November 8 says that the census of population in the snow-bound areas of Leh and Basohli Tahsils and Poonch District in the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been completed and the provisional count is 1,02,680.

In all the three areas females are less than males, 49,752 against 52,928, and only 371 are literate. The literate males total 6,611.

Area-wise figures are: Basohli Tahsil—16,418 persons (Males 8,792 and Females 7,626); Leh Tahsil—42,486 persons (Males 21,086 and Females 21,400); and Poonch District—43,776 persons (Males 23,050 and Females 20,726).

Check-posts will be created to screen the new entrants in these areas.

GOVERNOR OF ASSAM

A Press Communique issued on November 4 from the Rashtrapati Bhavan says that General S.M. Shrinagesh, Governor of Assam, having been granted leave for two months for reasons of health, the President is pleased to appoint Shri Vishnu Sahay to act as Governor of Assam during the absence of General Shrinagesh.

TOURS BY MINISTERS TO BE UNOSTENTATIOUS

An announcement of November 15 says that the Central Government have taken measures to make the tours by Ministers as unostentatious as possible.

The use of railway saloons has been restricted and so has been the presentation of Guards of Honour. The staff accompanying Ministers on tour has been cut and functions arranged in honour of Ministers have been curtailed.

The Cabinet Ministers and the Ministers of State are entitled to the use of railway saloons. But

it has been suggested that except where the Minister considers it necessary to use the saloon and passes personal orders to that effect, he should travel by ordinary railway accommodation, to which he is entitled under the rules.

In no case should there be stoppage of traffic; and the ostentatious display of policemen should go.

IMPORT OF CARS

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 14, Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister for Industry, stated that no cars had been imported for the use of Ministers of the Central and State Govern-

ments during 1959-60.

The Minister explained that 60 Plymouth cars in CKD conditions had been allowed to be imported to order to provide facilities for tourists. A Bombay firm had also been granted an *ad hoc* licence in December 1959 for a c.i.f. value of 3.6 lakhs to import 36 Plymouth cars in CKD conditions. This was to meet the requirements of the Raj Bhavans and State Governments and for the use of foreign dignitaries visiting India. The number of cars released so far to the different Raj Bhavans and State Governments for the purpose was 27.

MOVEMENT OF TECHNICAL PERSONNEL

According to an announcement of November 10, the Union Home Ministry has outlined several measures to check the haphazard movement of technical personnel from one organisation to another.

No Government department or undertaking is to directly negotiate for appointment with an officer or employee serving in a Government department, corporation or undertaking.

All employing authorities in the public sector, including corporations and companies, are to adopt the rule that no application will be considered unless it has been forwarded by the head of the office, department or management concerned. Already, under the Government Servants Applications for Posts (Central Services) Rules, 1943, a Central Government servant applying for another post in a Central Service is considered only if he has applied with the consent of the head of the office or department in which he is employed.

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT

All technical personnel who resign from Government employment are to be asked before they are re-employed to furnish to the appointing authorities full details of their previous employments. The purpose is that the departments or State undertakings in which the persons concerned had served, may be approached for information on the suitability of these persons for re-employment.

The Central Ministries have also been requested that, as far as possible,

there should be sufficient security for persons employed in public undertakings and scientific and technical organisations. It is felt that insecurity of tenure is an important factor inducing the movement of personnel.

The note underlining these suggestions has been prepared by the Home Ministry's Manpower Directorate, which is engaged in co-ordinating manpower policies and programmes of the various Ministries and other agencies.

National Register

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 2, about 50,000 persons had got themselves enrolled in the National Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel till early this year.

The Register has two sections: General and Special. In the General Section, meant for the Indian technical personnel living in the country, about 46,000 persons had been listed. The Special Section for Indian scientists abroad had about 3,800 persons on the rolls.

The General Section is open to all those persons who hold at least a post-graduate degree in a science subject or a bachelor's degree in agriculture, veterinary science and other specialised fields, or a degree or diploma in engineering or technology, or post-graduate or other research qualifications in medicine.

The Special Section prescribes qualification of a bachelor's degree in any science subject or a degree or a diploma, etc., in any branch of engineering, or in any branch of

technology or post-graduate or other specialised work in a branch of medical science, or training in business management or accountancy of a standard broadly comparable to a professional degree or diploma.

LISTS CIRCULATED

Persons enrolled in the Special Section are classified, and their names are published periodically and circulated to principal employers in both the public and private sectors.

Also, they are treated by the Union Public Service Commission as 'personal contact candidates', and considered for posts advertised by the Commission for which they are *prima facie* eligible, even when they do not formally apply for them. They are considered automatically for appointment to the Pool of Indian Scientists and Technologists whose strength has been doubled to 200 from this year.

Already, all Ministries of the Government of India have been requested to prepare, along with their annual budget estimates, statements of their requirements for scientific and technical personnel during the year.

WELFARE PROGRAMME FOR GOVT. EMPLOYEES

As a first step towards a co-ordinated welfare programme for all the Central employees, a committee has been constituted in Delhi, says an announcement of November 14.

The committee is to keep an eye on welfare activities and to make the experience of the different departments in this field available to one another. It will also advise Government on welfare policies and programmes and maintain a degree of uniformity in the pattern of assistance given to co-operative societies and other welfare organisations set up by the employees.

The recommendation for setting up such a committee was made by the Second Pay Commission.

AIR MARSHAL MUKERJEE PASSES AWAY

Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee died in Tokyo on November 8, due to suffocation caused by accidental choking of wind-pipe. His body was flown to New Delhi on November 10 and cremated with full military honours the next day.

REORGANISATION OF CENTRAL EXCISE

An announcement of November 3 says that the Government of India have constituted a seven-member committee to carry out a comprehensive examination of the working of the Central Excise Department and to make recommendations for its reorganisation.

Shri A.K. Chanda, until recently Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, is chairman of the Committee; and its members are: Shri Babubhai M. Chinai, M.P.; Shri N. P. Nathwani, M.P.; Shri B.C. Ghosh, M.P.; Mr. J. D. H. Brown; Shri A.M.M. Murugappa Chettiar; and Shri R.N. Misra.

The Committee's Headquarters will be in New Delhi. It will submit its report to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) before October 31, 1961.

STATE BANK ACTIVITIES

Opening a branch of the State Bank at Buxar (Bihar) on November 12, Shri B.R. Bhagat, Union Deputy Minister of Finance, said that the State Bank had initiated a pilot scheme as far back as 1956 for providing co-ordinated finance to small-scale industries. This scheme had now been extended to all its branches. The total credit limits sanctioned by the Bank to small-scale industries had progressed from Rs. 10.7 lakhs at the end of 1956 to Rs. 582 lakhs at the end of June 1960, the number of accounts rising from 25 to 1963.

Shri Bhagat said that the Bank had also been responsive to the needs of Indian agriculture and co-operatives. The credit sanctioned by the Bank to marketing and processing societies, other than sugar factories, had risen from about Rs. 15 lakhs at the end of June 1955 to Rs. 2.28 crores at the end of the last financial year. The Bank had also been lending its full support to the Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations.

EXPANSION PROGRAMME

Referring to the Bank's expansion

programme, the Deputy Minister said that most of the 400 branches which had been opened in the past 5 years had been located at relatively small places where banking facilities were either inadequate or non-existent. All except 24 of these centres had a population not exceeding 50,000. Seventy-seven centres had a population below 10,000. At 64 centres, there were no banking facilities when the Bank opened its branches. At the end of April this year, 40 branches were situated at places where no other banking facilities were available within a distance of 20 miles.

With regard to the growth of deposits and advances in the new branches of the Bank, Shri Bhagat said that at the end of 1955, deposits and advances at 20 new branches amounted to Rs. 60.2 lakhs and 59.9 lakhs respectively. In April this year, they went up to Rs. 28.72 crores and Rs. 22.16 crores respectively.

MORATORIUM TO NEW CITIZEN BANK

In a Press Note issued on November 14, the Ministry of Finance has announced that the Central Government have, on the recommendation of the Reserve Bank, granted to the New Citizen Bank of India, Bombay, a moratorium from November 15, 1960 to February 14, 1961, both days inclusive, under the provisions of section 45 of the Banking Companies Act, as recently amended.

The grant of this moratorium does not indicate any sudden or recent change in the position of this or any other bank operating in the Bombay area. The question of reconstructing the New Citizen Bank of India and amalgamating it with some other major bank is under the active consideration of the Reserve Bank of India and the moratorium has been declared in the general interests of the depositors of the bank and with a view to facilitating the contemplated reconstruction and amalgamation.

FINANCE FOR INDUSTRY

A number of agencies have been set up since Independence to provide credit facilities to industries in the private sector whose growth is considered important for the planned development of the country.

Established in July 1948, the Industrial Finance Corporation had sanctioned loans aggregating Rs. 84.61 crores till June 1960 in respect of 338 applications. During 1959-60 alone, the total amount of loans approved by the I.F.C. was Rs. 17.92 crores which is a record for the twelve years the Corporation has been functioning. The loans approved by the Corporation for co-operative societies represent nearly 23 per cent of the total.

The State Finance Corporations assist medium and small scale industries which do not fall within the scope of the all-India Corporation. There are, besides, other avenues of credit facilities for small industries.

The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, set up in January 1955, had sanctioned by September 1959 assistance of Rs. 14.05 crores to 43 companies.

The World Bank had given two loans of \$10 million each to the ICICI to meet the foreign exchange requirements of projects financed by the Corporation. Recently a further loan of \$20 million has been announced by the Bank to the ICICI.

The Refinance Corporation for Industries was set up in June 1958 to provide re-lending facilities against loans given by banks to medium industrial concerns for the purpose of increased production primarily in industries included in the Plan. Refinance assistance sanctioned till March last year amounted to Rs. 2.4 crores.

The National Industrial Development Corporation, set up in 1954, also acts as an agency of the Government for the grant of special loans for the rehabilitation and modernisation of the cotton textiles and the jute industries.

Taking the base as 100 in 1951, the gross index of industrial production rose to 151 in 1959. At present, the index is touching 168.

CENTRAL REVENUE FOR SEPTEMBER

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 9, the revenue realised from items on which duties are levied and collected by the Central Government in the first six months of the financial year 1960-61 amounted to Rs. 366.65 crores. Of this, Rs. 74.68 crores were collected during September, 1960. The corresponding figures for the first six months of the financial year 1959-60 and for the month of September 1959 were Rs. 328.49 crores and Rs. 77.86 crores respectively.

Commerce & Industry

HEAVY ELECTRICAL FACTORY AT BHOPAL INAUGURATED

The Heavy Electrical Factory at Bhopal inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, on November 6, will be among the major industrial undertakings in the Public Sector.

The Bhopal Project forebodes a strident advance in the supply of electrical power in the coming years. By the end of the Third Plan period, the Bhopal Project would annually manufacture equipment sufficient for generating one million Kws of power.

Till now, the country has been almost entirely dependent on imports in respect of heavy electrical equipment. The country's requirements of heavy electrical machinery have been estimated at about Rs. 80 crores annually by the Fourth Plan period.

PRODUCTION TARGETS

The annual output in the Bhopal Factory, as envisaged earlier, would be worth Rs. 25 crores. Taking into consideration the country's rising needs, it was subsequently contemplated to double the output to Rs. 50 crores per annum. Since, however, it is not economic to have too large a concentration at Bhopal, it is now proposed to have an annual output of about Rs. 30 to 35 crores at the Bhopal factory and to set up another unit elsewhere for a production worth Rs. 15 to 20 crores annually.

The Government have also decided to set up two more factories in the Public Sector for the production of heavy electrical equipment—one in collaboration with the USSR and another with Czechoslovakia. Provision for these projects has been made in the Third Plan and it is expected that by the middle of the Third Plan period these new units will commence production.

By the end of March, 1961, the Bhopal factory would have produced equipment worth Rs. 3 crores, which will be stepped up to Rs. 9 crores in the next year. It is estimated that the annual output would be about Rs. 25 crores by the beginning of the Fourth Plan period, which might go up to Rs. 25 crores when further development materialises.

RANGE OF PRODUCTION

The range of production in the factory will include, in the early stages, switchgear, control gear, power transformers and capacitors. Traction motors for railways are expected to be produced from April 1962. Equipment for electric locomotives and industrial motors would follow suit and hydro and thermal generators would come a year later. By 1967 or so, the factory would be in full stride.

Spread over an area of about 550 acres, the factory has completed its first phase. Production of switchgears commenced on July 1, 1960 in Block No. 4. Another Block (No. 3), which will handle the manufacture of transformers, has just gone into production. The Foundry Block was commissioned in early August 1960. A Maintenance Block, as well as a well-equipped laboratory for testing and research, has also been got ready.

TRAINING FACILITIES

The production of heavy electrical machinery being a job of high skill and precision, from the very beginning the question of adequate training facilities in the factory has been kept in the forefront. At present, the training school of the factory imparts instruction to about 3,000 technicians. It is proposed to step up this number to 4,000 to meet the increased require-

ments of technicians in the factory. Besides, nearly 200 qualified engineers with previous experience were sent for training in the U.K. at the Workshop of the Associated Electrical Industries (AEI), who are the consultants to the Project.

Over 20,000 men are on the pay roll of the Project. The population of the township which is fast coming up with all modern amenities, will eventually exceed one lakh. Over 3,000 quarters have already been completed and further house building programme on a major scale has been taken up in hand.

First of its kind in India, the Bhopal factory will also be the biggest in Asia.

PILOT PAPER PLANT

A pilot pulp and paper plant has been opened at the Forest Research Institute in Dehradun. The plant has been put up at a cost of Rs. 60 lakhs, of which Rs. 20 lakhs has been given as aid by the U.S. Technical Co-operation Mission. It will produce six tons of paper a day, and will help develop new processes of paper manufacture based on hitherto unknown or unused raw materials.

PRODUCTION OF JUTE GOODS

The two-day discussions between representatives of the Indian Jute Mills Association and the Union Government concluded in New Delhi on November 10.

It has been decided that the curtailment of production by jute mills should be limited to the equivalent of an additional 8 per cent of the loomage, besides the 9 per cent looms sealed earlier. IJMA have agreed to accept the decisions of the Government on the quantum and method of regulating the production.

In the course of discussion, questions relating to the supply of raw jute and maintenance of production of jute goods were fully examined. It was agreed that production should be maintained at stable levels and as high as possible, taking into consideration the supply position of raw jute, both local and imported.

The prices of raw jute would now be sought to be maintained at reasonable levels through a regulated programme of buying by the jute industry and other necessary measures. The IJMA representatives agreed that jute goods for the export markets should have a reasonable relationship with raw jute prices and should not rule unduly high.

PRODUCTIVITY IN PLASTIC INDUSTRY

Suggestions for increasing productivity in the plastic industry in India have been made by a team of experts in a report which was published by the National Productivity Council on November 4.

On the question of labour-management relations, the report emphasises the need of recognition of the employees' rights, delegation of responsibility and respect for the worker's point of view for ensuring a harmonious functioning of the undertaking. The report adds that labour, on the other hand, should be educated to develop a healthy and enlightened attitude towards productivity and understand the problems faced by management in introducing the latest advances in plant and processing. This would become possible by fostering a sense of partnership and unity of interest between labour and management.

Among the recommendations made by the Team are the introduction of a suitable incentive system based on attendance, grouping of industries having common interest to enable the exchange of technical and other information and bring about healthy growth of various groups, for closer attention to safety factor and hygiene for improving productivity, product specialisation, maintenance planning of machines and tools and plant layout for a small-sized plastic factory.

This is the third report of its kind which NPC has brought out. The two earlier reports had dealt with road transport and small-scale industries.

The Team, which was sponsored by the NPC with assistance from the U.S. Technical Cooperation Mission, visited the USA, Italy and Japan

for a comprehensive study of the technological advances and productivity techniques adopted in plastic industry in respect of production, planning and marketing.

FEDERATION OF COOP. SUGAR FACTORIES

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 7, formalities regarding the formation of the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories have been completed and the Federation is expected to be registered shortly.

Organised by 24 cooperative sugar factories, which now produce 2.86 lakh tons of sugar against the estimated national production of 24.2 lakh tons, the Federation will coordinate the working of cooperative sugar factories in the country and assist in the promotion and organisation of new cooperative factories. Seven units will go into operation by April 1961, raising the annual sugar production on cooperative basis to about 4 lakh tons.

The constitution of the National Federation is designed to ensure a balanced and equitable representation to all the constituents.

The finances of the National Federation will be drawn mainly

from annual subscription from members on the basis of quantity of sugar manufactured by the cooperative sugar factories.

The Second All-India Seminar on Cooperative Sugar Factories held at Etikoppaka in Andhra Pradesh in 1957 had recommended the establishment of such a National Federation.

PRODUCTION OF WOOLLEN YARN REGULATED

The Government of India issued an Order on November 1, empowering the Textile Commissioner to regulate the production and sale of all types of woollen yarns, and to fix the maximum prices of all types of woollen yarns and fabrics, including hosiery goods. The Order has been issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

The Government had issued in September 1960 the Woollen Yarn (Production and Distribution) Control Order. The Woollen Textile (Production and Distribution Control) Order, which has now been issued, is a comprehensive measure, bringing within its scope both woollen yarns and woollen fabrics. This repeals the earlier Woollen Yarn (Production and Distribution Control) Order.

TRADE AND PAYMENTS AGREEMENT WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A new Trade and Payments Agreement between India and Czechoslovakia was concluded in Prague on November 3. The agreement which comes into effect from January 1, 1961 will remain valid for a three-year period.

The new agreement provides a framework for expanding trade between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Both countries have agreed to grant each other 'Most Favoured Nation' treatment and other trade facilities to enable closer commercial and economic relations. Payments relating to commercial and non-commercial transactions between Czechoslovakia and India would be effected in Indian rupees.

Schedules listing the goods available for export from either

country to the other have been included in the agreement. Among the articles listed for export from India are cotton textiles and fabrics, jute manufactures, coir yarn and manufactures, woollen textiles, vegetable oils and hydrogenated oils, spices, tobacco, tea and coffee, processed and semi-processed hides and skins, shellac and shellac products, mica, manganese and ferromanganese, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, handicrafts and handlooms, tinned fruits, plastic goods, sports goods, engineering goods, cashew-nuts, de-oiled cakes, cinematograph films, books, magazines, pictures, etc.

The items of import from Czechoslovakia would be iron and steel products, special steel, alloy steel, writing and printing paper and newsprint, various types of machi-

nery and machine tools, capital goods, dyes, intermediates and chemicals, diesel generating sets, tractor and tractor parts, ball and roller bearing, tyres and tubes, mild steel products, etc.

INDO-BURMA TRADE TALKS

Discussions between the Burmese trade delegation and the Government of India began in New Delhi on November 11.

The Burmese delegation indicated that besides selling rice to this country, Burma was willing to purchase from India a number of commodities such as light machinery, electrical goods, textiles, coal, jute goods, dry prawns, yarn and pulp.

EXPORT OF ENGINEERING GOODS

India's exports of engineering goods during the first nine months of this year have shown an increase of more than 50 per cent over the total for the corresponding period last year. The seaborne exports for these nine months amounted to nearly Rs. 6 crores compared to nearly Rs. 4 crores for the corresponding period last year.

The country is producing engineering goods worth Rs. 250 crores annually. The Engineering Export Promotion Council feels that if certain difficulties were removed, exports could reach an annual target of Rs. 50 crores by the end of the Third Plan. It has suggested the formation of a high-power committee to examine the difficulties in the way of the export trade.

EXPORT OF TOBACCO

The Directorate of Marketing and Inspection of the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture has published a monograph on types and grades of unmanufactured tobacco exported from India in 1957 to provide precise information on the nature of requirements of different importing countries as a step in boosting up tobacco exports. The publication reveals that tobacco yields an income of about Rs. 49 crores to the growers and earns for the country foreign exchange of Rs. 15 crores per annum. Exports

of this important commercial crop have been steadily going up and during the five-year period ending 1957, India exported an annual average of 85 million pounds of unmanufactured tobacco. This was nearly double the pre-war average of 47.5 million pounds.

FOREIGN TRADE IN SEPTEMBER

According to a Press Note issued on November 7 by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, the provisional figures of India's foreign trade in merchandise by all routes—sea, air and land—on private and Government accounts during September 1960 were as given below:—

Exports: Rs. 52.68 akhs
Re-exports: Rs. 41 lakhs
Imports: Rs. 75.28 lakhs
Balance of trade: Rs. 22.19 lakhs

These figures exclude overland trade with Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan. The import figures are exclusive of the value of certain consignments of Government stores awaiting adjustment and of private merchandise under reference to customs for verification.

STEEL RETENTION PRICES

A Press Note issued on November 11 by the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel says that the Government of India have decided that the average retention price for steel payable to the Tata Iron and Steel Company and the Indian Iron and Steel Company be increased by Rs. 4.85 per ton for the 5-year period 1955-56 to 1959-60. This will be the final adjustment under the escalator clause for the five-year price period ending March 31, 1960.

The increase will enable the Tata Iron and Steel Company to increase the contribution to its Development Fund by Rs. 2.22 per ton, i.e. to the level of Rs. 52.22 per ton for the period 1955-56 to 1959-60 and the Indian Iron and Steel Company to maintain its contribution of Rs. 7 per ton for the same period.

The present retention price of steel, including excise duty, payable to the Tata Iron and Steel Company

and the Indian Iron and Steel Company is Rs. 470 per ton.

The Government of India had decided in February 1956 that if, as a result of changes in railway freight, changes in statutory prices of coal and other fuel, raw materials, stores or machinery and changes in labour costs caused by labour legislation or adjudication or conciliation awards, the manufacturing costs of the Tata Iron and Steel Company and the Indian Iron and Steel Company altered from the 1954-55 level, the companies might represent in the matter and Government would consider all such representations on merits.

BANK GUARANTEE ON COTTON PURCHASE

A Press Note issued on November 3 by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, says that representations have been received stating that Mills which require cotton to be requisitioned may be allowed to give a bank guarantee instead of depositing the amount with the East India Cotton Association Limited, Bombay. The Textile Commissioner has considered these representations and has no objection to the Mills furnishing a bank guarantee in favour of the East India Cotton Association Limited, Bombay, at the rate of Rs. 25 per bale in lieu of the deposit.

CHECK ON SPECULATION IN JUTE CONTRACTS

According to a notification in the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated November 5, the Government of India have effected amendments to the bye-laws relating to transferable specific delivery contracts in jute and jute goods with a view to enable the East India Jute and Hessian Exchange Ltd., Calcutta, to curb speculation in such contracts. These amendments have been made because, under the existing bye-laws of the Exchange, the Board has not got adequate powers to take effective steps to curb speculation.

The amendments, *inter alia*, empower the Board of the Exchange to regulate trading in any delivery or deliveries in transferable specific delivery contracts in jute and jute goods; to evolve a scheme of registration of such contracts and the pucca delivery contracts issued thereagainst; to restrict the number of transfers of pucca delivery contracts; to impose special margins on

transferable specific delivery contracts; and to fix maximum and minimum prices and to vary them from time to time. All the above powers, as also the power to close out outstanding transferable specific delivery contracts in jute and jute goods, would also be exercisable by the Forward Markets Commission if it considers that the interests of the trade or the public interest so require.

CONSUMPTION OF PETROL

The Oil Advisory Committee which met in New Delhi on November 7, recommended that immediate steps should be taken to remove the imbalance in the consumption of petrol and diesel by way of adopting technological and chemical devices in the processes of consumption and supply.

The appointment of a committee consisting of the representatives of Ministries of Finance, Commerce and Industry, Transport and Communications, and Steel, Mines and Fuel, and the oil producing and refining companies in India for the purpose was suggested.

The report of the Steering Committee appointed by the Oil Advisory Committee at its last meeting was considered. It was also suggested that the Steering Committee should review the pattern of production and consumption of petroleum products in the country on a continuing basis.

The 15-member Advisory Committee was appointed in January last.

COMMODITY PRICES IN SEPTEMBER

According to a Press Note issued on November 4 by the Economic Adviser to the Government of India, the wholesale prices as measured by the official index (with the year ended March 1953 as 100) advanced further by 0.2 per cent to 125.3 during the month of September 1960, as compared with 125.0 for August 1960. The index was higher by 6.9 per cent when compared with 117.2 for September, 1959.

During the month under review, the index for 'Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants' moved up by 0.2 per cent to 119.5, 'Industrial Raw

Materials' by 1.3 per cent to 138.7 and 'Manufactures' by 0.2 per cent to 122.7, while the index for 'Tobacco' moved down by 2.2 per cent to 102.7. The index for 'Food Articles' remained unchanged at its earlier month's level of 123.9.

FOOD ARTICLES

A fall in the prices of rice, barley and maize brought down the sub-group index for 'Cereals' by 0.5 per cent to 108.5, although there was a rise in the prices of jowar, bajra and ragi. The index for 'Cereals' was higher by 0.8 per cent when compared with that of a year ago. Higher prices of gram raised the sub-group index for 'Pulses' by 1.1 per cent to 94.7, despite a fall in the prices of arhar, mung, masur and urad. Lower prices of onions, oranges and bananas brought down the index for 'Fruits and Vegetables' by 9.3 per cent to 122.2 although the prices of potatoes and cashew-nuts exhibited advance. The sub-group index for 'Milk and Ghee' recorded a rise of 3.8 per cent to 123.2 as a result of an increase in the prices of both milk and ghee. A rise of 0.6 per cent to 148.9 in the index for 'Edible Oils' was caused by higher prices of groundnut oil and coconut oil, notwithstanding a decline in the prices of gingelly oil and mustard oil. The sub-group index for 'Fish, Eggs and Meat' registered a fall of 0.1 per cent to 126.9 due to a decline in the prices of fish; the price of eggs, however, showed a rise. A fall in the prices of gur brought down the sub-group index for 'Sugar and Gur' by 0.8 per cent to 138.9. An advance in the prices of tea, coffee, chillies, cummin (Jira) and cardamoms pushed up the index for 'Other Food Articles' by 0.3 per cent to 171.2, although the prices of black pepper, cloves, turmeric, betelnuts and salt witnessed declines.

The index for 'Tobacco' receded by 2.2 per cent to 102.7 as a result of a fall in the prices of raw tobacco, although the prices of cigarettes exhibited a slight rise.

The index for the group 'Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants' went up by 0.2 per cent to 119.5 due to a rise in the prices of castor oil and higher average prices of coal and petrol.

INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS

An advance of 4.0 per cent to 139.5 in the sub-group index for 'Fibres' was caused by a substantial rise in the prices of raw jute; raw wool also witnessed a rise, while raw cotton and raw silk were marked down. A decline in the prices of linseed and cotton-seed brought down the index for 'Oilseeds' by 0.1 per cent to 146.9, although the prices of groundnuts, castorseed and rapeseed showed advances. The sub-group index for 'Minerals' stood unchanged at its earlier month's level of 98.2. Lower prices of raw hides, raw skins and lac brought down the index for 'Other Industrial Raw Materials' by 1.0 per cent to 124.6; the prices of tanning materials and logs and timber, however, showed advances.

A fall of 1.1 per cent to 129.5 in the index for 'Intermediate Products' was caused by lower prices of cotton yarn, rayon yarn, coir yarn, brass, copper and lead, although the prices of linseed oil and zinc showed increases.

FINISHED PRODUCTS

Higher prices of cotton manufactures (plus 0.4 per cent to 131.6) and jute manufactures (+1.1 per cent to 116.4) raised the index for 'Textiles' by 0.3 per cent to 123.9. The prices of silk and rayon manufactures (-1.2 per cent to 100.8), however, showed a fall. Among cotton manufactures, both mill-made and hand-loom cloth displayed a rise. The sub-group index for 'Metal Products' remained stationary at its previous month's level of 146.8. The sub-group index for 'Chemicals' advanced by 1.3 per cent to 105.3 owing to a rise in the prices of general chemicals and soap. Oil cakes moved up by 0.8 per cent to 138.6.

The sub-group index for 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' rose by 0.1 per cent to 111.2 due to a rise in the prices of machinery; there was, however, a fall in the prices of cycles. While prices of shoes (rubber) and glass moved up, those of bricks and tiles moved down, and sub-group index for 'Other Finished Products' remained stationary at its previous month's level of 115.9. On the whole, the

index for 'Finished Products' was higher by 0.3 per cent at 121.5 during the month under review.

COMMITTEE OF DIRECTION

According to a Press Note issued on November 15 by the Cabinet Secretariat, the Government of India have set up a Committee of Direction to simplify, coordinate and rationalise the system of reporting in relation to trade and industry. The Cabinet Secretary is the chairman of the committee.

The terms of reference of this Committee are: to undertake a survey of the requirements placed on the industries by the administration in the matter of supply of data,

submission of reports, etc., to Government; and to suggest ways and means of securing the elimination of unnecessary reports or information, reduction of frequency of reports or information, reduction in the number of copies of reports or data, simplification or consolidation of existing reports or data, elimination of unnecessary details, delay or cost of reporting and elimination or modification of specific procedures.

The survey will be carried out jointly by trained Government and business personnel under the direction of the Committee.

To begin with, the Committee of Direction will take up for study the coal and textile industries.



DEVELOPMENT OF INTERMEDIATE PORTS

The main recommendations of the Intermediate Ports Development Committee were adopted by the National Harbour Board at its special meeting held in New Delhi on November 11. Dr. P. Subbarayan, Union Minister for Transport and Communications, presided.

The Intermediate Ports Development Committee had recommended first priority works for the ports of Paradip, Kakinada, Masulipatam, Tuticorin, Neendakara, Beypore, Kozhikode, Mangalore, Karwar, Redi, Ratnagiri, Veraval, Porbandar, Okha, Sikka and Bedi at a cost of Rs. 6.11 crores.

Second priority works costing Rs. 4.22 crores were recommended by the committee for the ports of Paradip, Kakinada, Masulipatam, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Tuticorin, Beypore, Kozhikode, Karwar, Ratnagiri, Broach, Bhavnagar, Veraval, Porbandar, Okha and Bedi.

Third priority works for the ports of Cuddalore, Nagapattinam and Bhavnagar at a cost of Rs. 42.50 lakhs were also recommended. The development of Tuticorin and Mangalore as all-weather deep-draft ports was urged by the Committee on first priority

basis. In the second priority category for development as all-weather, deep-draft ports come Paradip and Porbandar.

TUTICORIN AND MANGALORE

The Board urged the need for developing Tuticorin and Mangalore as deep-draft, all-weather ports. It was pointed out that today Tuticorin was already handling 9 lakh tons of cargo which was expected to rise to 15 lakh tons in the Fourth Plan and Mangalore was expected to handle a traffic of 20 lakh tons of iron ore in addition to general cargo of 6 lakh tons with the development of the port and the construction of Mangalore-Hassan line.

The Board recommended that the allocation of Rs. 15 lakhs for Ratnagiri port be increased to Rs. 35 lakhs so as to make a beginning for the development of the port (at Mirya Bay site) as an all-weather port.

The Board also recommended that the traffic potential of Porbandar should be reviewed and, if this review showed that the traffic was likely to rise to 5 lakh tons in the Third Plan period, its develop-

MAJOR AND MINOR PORTS

Along the 3,500-mile coastline of India there are six major ports, 20 intermediate ports and about 200 minor.

Of the six major ports, Calcutta, Visakhapatnam and Madras are on the eastern sea-board and Bombay, Cochin and Kandla on the west coast.

Kandla has been built in the period since Independence. A number of schemes to improve and expand facilities and add to the total cargo-handling capacity of the major ports have also been carried out during the First and Second Plans.

With the completion of the development schemes of the six major ports, the aggregate capacity for handling cargo will rise to about 41 million tons per year by the end of the Second Plan.

During the Third Plan it is proposed to build a subsidiary port at Haldia, 65 miles downstream from Calcutta.

A total provision of Rs. 75 crores is proposed for the development of the major ports, including Haldia, in the Third Plan.

The National Harbour Board, on which the maritime States are represented, advises the Central and the State Governments on the co-ordinated development of ports.

ment as an all-weather port should be considered.

CHAMPA-KORBA RAIL LINE EXTENDED

According to an announcement of November 11, the Railway Board has sanctioned the construction of a broad gauge line measuring about 8.8 miles extending the existing Champa-Korba line. The new construction will take the rail connection across the Hasdee River.

The line is primarily intended for movement of coal from the new collieries which are being developed on the west bank of the river.

The construction, which will be carried out by the South Eastern Railway, is likely to cost about Rs. 1.71 crores.

COAL SUPPLY TO RAILWAYS

The Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri S.V. Ramaswamy, said in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 15 that the overall loco coal stock position had improved to the extent that stocks had gone up from 6.0 days' consumption on June 1, 1960, to 11.2 days' consumption on

October 31. Some improvement had also been made in the quality of coal supplied.

The Deputy Minister said that with a view to improving and ensuring supply of right type of coal, a new organisation for coal inspection had been set up in the B. and B. coalfields. Railway inspection had also been introduced from August 10 for coal received from the public sector collieries situated in Karanpura and Bokaro coalfields. Similar inspection was proposed to be extended shortly to the coal coming from collieries in the private sector.

RADIO-TELEGRAPH LINK WITH PHILIPPINES

India's international communication channels were further strengthened by the establishment of

a high-speed radio-telegraph link between India and the Philippines on November 1. This new link has been established by the Overseas Communications Service of the Government of India.

The establishment of this India-Philippines channel will also provide an east-about route for radiotelegraph services between India and the United States of America. This will be a valuable alternative to the existing west-about route with the U.S.A.

With the introduction of this telegraphic link, the Overseas Communications Service in India has now 28 direct wireless telegraph services, 25 direct radio telephone services and 12 direct radiophoto-telegraph services—a total of 65. On the eve of independence—on August 14, 1947—India had a total of six services only.

The average cost of reclamation would be Rs. 120 per acre.

The Committee feels that extensive belts of eroded wastelands are available in the districts of Midnapore and Bankura. In the past, these lands were considered unculturable, but with the advance in our knowledge of land improvement, there is no doubt that these lands can be brought under cultivation and made fit for producing agricultural crops. The Committee has, therefore, suggested that information on the availability of wastelands for arable cultivation should be obtained by conducting rapid reconnaissance surveys in these districts.

CHAR AND TERAI LANDS

The Committee feels that *char* lands, covering an area of over 13,000 acres, are very fertile and can, when reclaimed, produce good crops of paddy, sugarcane and jute. Large-scale habitation is, however, not possible in these areas because of flood and erosion hazards. The Committee has suggested that a belt of thick growth of grasses and trees may be established along the banks of the river Teesta to prevent undercutting and erosion. The cost of reclamation of these lands is estimated at Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 per acre.

The *terai* lands are poor in fertility and do not retain moisture for long, although they are situated in an area with a rainfall of 120 to 180 inches. The cost of reclaiming these lands is estimated at Rs. 100 per acre.

As regards saline lands, the area offered for reclamation is only about 1,800 acres in the Midnapore district. These lands can be rendered fit for cultivation after taking suitable ameliorative measures. The cost of reclaiming the lands is estimated at Rs. 140 per acre.

SOIL CONSERVATION WING

The Committee has recommended that, in order to carry out the large programme of soil conservation suggested by it, the State Directorate of Agriculture should be strengthened by the establishment of a separate wing of soil conservation under the Superintending Engineer and Joint Director of

Agriculture (Engineering), who may be provided with the necessary headquarters and field staff.

In the lateritic or red soil belt of the State where irrigation facilities are not available, the Committee has suggested the construction of earthen embankments across gullies in order to hold rain-water for agricultural and other purposes, and to check erosion on the downstream side of the gullies. The Committee has also suggested that advantage should be taken of the nearness of the sub-soil water to grow winter crops in *char* lands through suitable cultivation practices.

The Committee has pointed out the importance of introducing legislation to undertake soil conservation measures in catchment areas, and has suggested that this legislation should be introduced as early as possible.

PRIORITIES

The Committee has made recommendations regarding priorities among reclaimable lands so that higher priorities for reclaiming are assigned to those lands which are likely to yield substantial economic returns in a short time. The eroded lands in the districts of Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia have been assigned the highest priority.

The Committee on Location and Utilization of Wastelands was appointed by the Government of India in June, 1959 under the chairmanship of Dr. B.N. Uppal, former Agricultural Commissioner with the Government of India. It has completed its work in respect of eight States and has already submitted its report on Punjab.

FOOD STORAGE GODOWNS

According to a New Delhi announcement dated November 6, a joint organisation of the Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Works, Housing and Supply will soon be set up for accelerating the construction of food storage accommodation in various parts of the country.

A new wing of the Central P.W.D. under an Additional Chief Engineer has been created to deal

exclusively with the planning and building of storage godowns. This decision is intended to rapidly augment storage capacity for housing the proposed buffer stock of 5-million tons.

Government-owned and rented godowns at present accommodate 2 million tons of foodgrains.

Further, the Food Department has finalised the programme for construction of the balance capacity of 3 million tons. Of this, one million tons will be for bulk storage in the shape of grain elevators and flat storage godowns.

By the end of the current year storage capacity of about 50,000 tons will have been completed and additional godowns of 6.5 lakh tons capacity would be ready during 1961. More godowns will be commissioned during 1962.

Besides the 10,000 ton silo-cum-elevator at Hapur, another grain elevator of like capacity is being installed at Kidderpore docks, Calcutta. Additional concrete bins to augment the capacity by 7,000 tons are also being erected. It has also been decided to erect concrete silos of a total capacity of 2 lakh tons for bulk storage of wheat at the ports of Kandla, Madras, Bombay and Vishakhapatnam.

PRODUCTION OF MULTI-PURPOSE FOOD

A factory for large-scale production of multi-purpose food was commissioned in Coimbatore on November 3. The factory, the first of its kind in India, has a capacity to produce three tons of food in eight hours. The present daily output will be half a ton.

The factory has been sponsored by the Central Food and Technological Research Institute, Mysore, which evolved the multi-purpose food after extensive research.

Freedom From Hunger Campaign

The fifteenth meeting of the National F.A.O. Liaison Committee was held in New Delhi on November 7, under the chairmanship of Dr. Panjabrao S. Deshmukh, Union Agriculture Minister.

The Committee reviewed the

progress made in carrying out the 'Freedom from Hunger' campaign and considered the F.A.O. report on appraisal of agricultural, fishery and forestry resources in relation to needs in the lower Ganga—Brahmaputra basin.

Dr. Deshmukh stated that India had decided to participate in the 'Freedom from Hunger' campaign and a National Campaign Committee had been set up. The Action Programme Committee for the campaign had decided that such schemes should be taken up as were designed to supplement those included in the Third Plan in areas where non-official effort would be more useful. The schemes recommended by the Committee are: arranging demonstration of rice-growing by a team of Japanese farmers and training of selected young farmers at the demonstration centres, expansion of poultry, popularising subsidiary foods, encouragement of kitchen gardening and intensified vegetable growing and popularising improved agricultural implements.

The Committee also discussed the agenda of the forthcoming session of the International Rice Commission and the Fifth F.A.O. Regional Conference to be held at Saigon during the latter half of November. It was stated that considerable progress had been made in various spheres since 1951 when the country embarked upon a programme of planned development. The output of agricultural graduates had risen from about 800 in 1954 to about 1700 in 1959. During the same period the number of veterinary graduates had gone up to 800 in 1959 against 250 in 1954.

RELEASE OF SUGAR

According to a Press Note issued on November 2 by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the Government of India have decided to release 2 lakh tons of sugar in November. There will be no release for free sale from the factories in the Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Punjab, except a small quantity which will be released to each factory for sale to its employees.

Allotments will be made at prices fixed under Notification No.

UTILISATION OF WASTELANDS IN WEST BENGAL

The report on the utilisation of wastelands in West Bengal, prepared by the Uppal Committee on Location and Utilization of Wastelands in India, was released on November 14. The report says that several large-sized blocks of wastelands comprising 1,13,640 acres are available in West Bengal for reclamation, and that the cost of reclamation would be Rs. 1.32 crores or Rs. 116 per acre. The estimated additional production from the reclaimed lands would be 42,895 tons valued at Rs. 1.40 crores. The Committee feels that the average cost of reclamation is economic in terms of additional production.

The wastelands found in the State have been broadly divided into four categories, namely, eroded lands, *char* lands, *terai* lands and saline lands. On the basis of a study of comparative costs of reclamation of wastelands in the different categories, the Committee has pointed out that the reclamation of *char* lands is the most profitable

in terms of additional food production. On the other hand, the reclamation of eroded lands offers the greatest promise of increasing agricultural production, as extensive areas of these lands are available in the State and the average cost of reclamation is also not high.

The cost of reclamation of saline lands is also reported to be economical, but the area available in the State is small. As regards *terai* wastelands, they do not at present hold much promise for increased agricultural production, but the position will materially change when irrigation becomes available, for which there seem to be good prospects.

ERODED LANDS

The eroded wastelands covering an area of 85,379 acres are mostly found in the districts of Midnapore, Purulia and Bankura where the lands are undulating. Land reclamation in these areas is primarily soil and water conservation work.

GSR 1112/Ess. Com/Sugar dated September 15, 1960. The controlled ex-factory price for U.P. and North Bihar factories is Rs. 37.85 per maund and for factories in Punjab and South Bihar Rs. 38.35 per maund for ISS D-29 grade with the

prescribed price differentials for other grades. The fixed f.o.r. destination prices in respect of allotments made to Kanpur and Calcutta will be Rs. 38.60 and Rs. 39.85 per maund respectively for sugar of ISS D-29 grade.

far-reaching effects, Hafiz Sahib felt that a separate executive organisation, exclusively for soil conservation would be useful. This organisation should supervise the formulation and execution of soil conservation schemes on a country-wide basis.

River Projects & Power

FLOOD CONTROL PROGRAMME

The tenth meeting of the Central Flood Control Board was held in New Delhi on November 12 under the chairmanship of the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim.

Addressing the meeting, the Union Minister said that the flood control programme during the Third Five-Year Plan would form part of the State Plans. Hitherto, the State Governments had been sanctioning flood control schemes costing less than Rs. 10 lakhs each, without detailed technical scrutiny at the Centre. It was now proposed to raise this limit to Rs. one crore, thereby enabling the State Governments to take up more schemes on their own.

Under these new arrangements, the necessity for continuing all the flood control organisations, set up in the States and at the Centre, would have to be reviewed.

PROGRAMME FOR THIRD PLAN

Continuing, the Minister said that a provision of Rs. 75 crores had been tentatively made for flood control, drainage and anti-waterlogging measures in the draft outline of the Third Five-Year Plan. The proposals of the State Governments for flood control programme in the Third Plan were being discussed by the representatives of the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Irrigation and Power and the States concerned.

The final picture of the funds required for flood control, drainage and anti-waterlogging measures in the Third Plan would emerge only when the State Plans were finalised. In this connection, he emphasised the importance of

drainage and anti-waterlogging measures, and said that the benefits accruing from irrigation projects would be neutralised to a great extent, if the problem of waterlogging was not tackled successfully.

Reclamation of waterlogged areas had to be accorded high priority in the context of food shortage in the country, he emphasised.

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME

The Minister recalled that a comprehensive national programme for flood control was launched in September 1954, after the disastrous floods of that year. Since then, about 3,000 miles of embankments had been completed in the various States, affording protection to about 62 lakh acres of land.

In addition, 51 towns had been protected from flooding or erosion and the levels of 4,280 villages had been raised.

The experience gained so far had brought out the importance of an integrated basin-wise approach to the problem of flood control. On the basis of the data so far collected, most of the States having flood problems had formulated their long-range plans which, however, had to be returned to them to be revised in the light of the recommendations of the High Level Committee on Floods.

SOIL CONSERVATION

A proposal for setting up of a unified authority for soil conservation works and for enacting necessary legislation in the country was discussed at the meeting.

Emphasising the importance of soil conservation measures and its

LEGISLATION

The Board also reviewed the progress made by various States and Union Territories in regard to the enactment of legislation by State Governments for the levy of a flood cess. It was pointed out that there were already enactments empowering the State Government in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala and Mysore for the levy of a flood cess, while Bihar had recently adopted a bill for it. The Governments of Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, U.P., and Gujarat were also considering the question.

In the opinion of the Board, it was necessary to promote legislation for the levy of a flood cess, as the beneficiaries in the areas protected by drainage, anti-waterlogging and anti-erosion schemes should contribute towards the capital cost involved in the schemes.

The Board also underlined the importance of demarcating flood zones on the survey maps by the State Governments, so that the people living in those areas could be cautioned.

The Board further reviewed the damage caused by floods of 1960, and the extent of protection afforded by flood control works constructed so far in the country.

DRAINAGE IN ROHTAK DISTRICT

A New Delhi announcement of November 11 says that a three-man committee, to report on the schemes necessary for removal of drainage congestion in certain areas of Punjab adjoining Delhi, was appointed at a meeting convened recently by the Union Ministry of Irrigation and Power, with the officers of the Punjab Government, the Delhi Administration, the Central Public Works Department, and the Central Water and Power Commission.

The committee will examine the proposals of the Punjab Government and of the Delhi Administration, and is expected to finalise its report during the course of this month.

FLOOD CONTROL IN ORISSA

Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, stated in the Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question on November 15 that 226 schemes for various phases of flood control had been received by the Centre from the Orissa State Government during the Second Plan period. Of these, details of only five schemes had been furnished by the State Government.

During the Second Plan period, the Deputy Minister stated, Central loan assistance amounting to Rs. 1.7 crore had been sanctioned to the Government of Orissa for the execution of approved flood control works. The provision for 1960-61 was Rs. 29.90 lakhs.

MAJOR AND MEDIUM IRRIGATION SCHEMES

A total of 461 major and medium schemes in the irrigation sector were reported to have been completed till March 1960, stated Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 15.

Of these, 259 schemes were reported to have been completed before the First Five-Year Plan, 90 schemes during the First Plan period, and 112 during the Second Plan period up to March 1960.

In Bihar State, five schemes in the medium irrigation sector were reported to have been completed before the First Plan, 28 schemes during the First Plan period, and 11 in the Second Plan period up to March 1960.

In a written reply to another question, Shri Hathi stated that the total area irrigated from all sources at the end of 1950-51 was 51.5 million acres.

During the First Plan period, 2.9 million acres were added to the

irrigated area, as against the target of 8.5 million acres. Out of the total allocation of Rs. 469 crores, which included the amount to be spent on multi-purpose projects, a sum of Rs. 380 crores was actually spent.

During the Second Plan period, Shri Hathi said, the anticipated achievement was 9 million acres, as against the target of 12 million acres. The anticipated expenditure was Rs. 390 crores as against the allocation of Rs. 381 crores.

DANTIWADA PROJECT IN GUJARAT

According to an announcement of November 7, the Government of India have accepted the Dantiwada Reservoir Project in Gujarat for construction of a composite dam across the river Banas, near village Dantiwada in the Danera taluka of Banas-Kantha district of the State.

The Dantiwada reservoir will have a gross storage capacity of 16,400 million cubic feet of water, and the canal to take off from it from the left bank will irrigate 1,10,000 acres—80,000 acres mixed and 30,000 acres casual rabi crops—in the Banas-Kantha and Mehsana districts of Gujarat.

It is also proposed to generate about 1000 kw. of seasonal power at this project at a later date.

During the discussions on Third Plan schemes, the State Government have indicated that the revised cost of the project will be Rs. 827.22 lakhs.

The project is expected to be completed during the Third Plan period.

INSTALLED CAPACITY OF ELECTRICITY

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 15, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, said that the installed electricity capacity had been stepped up during the First Five-Year Plan by 1.1 million kw, as against the target of 1.3 million kw. The installed

capacity in 1950-51 was 2.3 million kw.

A total of Rs. 260 crores, allocated for the purpose in the public sector, had been actually spent during the period. In addition, Rs. 32 crores had been spent in the private sector and Rs. 10 crores by the self-generating industry.

As against the target of 3.5 million kw. during the Second Plan, the installed capacity had risen by 2.4 million kw. Of the total allocation of Rs. 427 crores in the public sector, a sum of Rs. 410 crores had been actually spent in the public sector, in addition to Rs. 37 crores in the private sector and Rs. 28 crores by self-generating industry.

POWER FROM TUNGABHADRA PROJECT

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 3, over two lakh acres of land were irrigated in 1959-60 by the Tungabhadra Project—an inter-State venture, undertaken by Andhra Pradesh and Mysore Governments. In addition, the Tungabhadra power system produced 160.9 million kw. of electricity during this period. This power was supplied to Andhra Pradesh and Mysore States. The power system will eventually be integrated with the proposed super-grid for the southern States.

The Tungabhadra project consists of a masonry dam, creating a reservoir with a water-spread of 146 sq. miles, three main canals, and three power houses.

The power houses on the left and the right banks of the dam will have eight generating units with a total capacity of 72,000 kw. Of these, two units at the right bank power house have already been commissioned. Further, there is a power house at Hampi, with four units of a total capacity of 36,000 kw., of which two units have been commissioned.

The total firm power available from the Tungabhadra power system at present is about 32,000 kw. and seasonal power about 35,500 kw.

ADVISORY BOARD FOR COOPERATIVE FARMING SET UP

According to an announcement of November 6, the Government of India have constituted a National Cooperative Farming Advisory Board with Shri S.K. Dey, Union Minister of Community Development and Cooperation, as chairman.

The Board consists of 24 members including Shri B.S. Murthy, Deputy Minister of Community Development and Cooperation; Shri S.D. Misra, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation; four Ministers from the States and four Members of Parliament.

The Board has been entrusted with the task of planning and promoting the programme of cooperative farming on a voluntary basis. It will review the progress and suggest modifications, if necessary. It will examine the question of obtaining the people's participation in the programme and suggest arrangements for education and training of personnel required for implementing the scheme.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Board, which has been constituted by a resolution of the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation, provides for an Executive Committee to review the programme of cooperative farming and ensure effective supervision and guidance. The Executive Committee has been authorised to appoint sub-committees to deal with different aspects of the programme of cooperative farming.

The Board will meet at least once in six months while the Executive Committee will meet as often as required.

The Board has been set up in accordance with one of the recommendations of the Working Group on Cooperative Farming, which

submitted its report in January 1960. The recommendations of this Group were endorsed by the National Development Council on September 13 and the decisions of the Government of India were recently communicated to the State Governments.

STUDY TEAM ON TRAINING

A Study Team on Cooperative Training and Education has been set up by the Government of India, says an announcement of November 9.

Shri S.D. Misra, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation, has been appointed leader of the ten-member team.

The team has been entrusted with the task of examining the adequacy of the present arrangements for cooperative education and training and make recommendations for evolving a training programme, commensurate with the requirements of cooperative development during the Third Five-Year Plan. It will suggest measures for ensuring active association of non-officials interested in the cooperative movement and recommend the administrative arrangements necessary for effective execution and coordination of the training programmes.

The team will also make recommendations relating to the programme of field study and research which can be conducted at training centres and universities and suggest suitable changes in the syllabus which will contribute to an understanding of the role of cooperation in relation to Community Development and Panchayati Raj.

The team has been asked to

submit its report within three months of the date of its formation. Its headquarters will be in Delhi.

The appointment of this team follows the earlier practice when Government appointed an Expert Committee on Cooperative Credit and a Working Group on Cooperative Farming. The reports of these two Committees have been of considerable assistance to the Government in arriving at a decision in which direction schemes on credit and farming should proceed in the Third Plan period.

Measures are also being initiated to set up special teams to study the pattern of organisation for cooperative processing and consumers' cooperatives.

FISHERIES IN C.D. BLOCKS

A New Delhi announcement of November 13 says that, to give an impetus to the fisheries programme in C.D. block areas, it has been decided that an Extension Officer for Fisheries may be appointed in addition to the Extension Officer for Animal Husbandry in blocks along the coast or areas where fisheries are a predominant occupation.

Provision for fisheries in the schematic budget is now made along with agriculture and animal husbandry under the head 'Agriculture and Land Improvement'. This is to ensure the availability of funds for the purpose in blocks where facilities for fish culture exist.

To remove the conflicting jurisdiction of fishery rights in tanks and ponds, the panchayats are being entrusted with rights for fisheries in small tanks and ponds.

PANCHAYAT RAJ IN ANDHRA PRADESH

The Panchayat Raj scheme came into force in Andhra Pradesh on November 1, with the inauguration of 9,400 development works all over the State. In 14,800 out of 26,450 villages in the State, constructive work, like the laying of a road or the starting of an irrigation project, was undertaken. The scheme of free mid-day meals to school children has been extended to all the 271 Panchayat Samitis in the State.

CONFERENCE OF STATE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

A conference of the State Ministers of Education was held in New Delhi on November 4 and 5. Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, presided.

Inaugurating the conference, Dr. Shrimali said that the Second Five-Year Plan, now drawing to a close, had marked a step forward in the expansion of educational facilities. Sixty per cent of the children in the age-group 6-11, 22.6 per cent in the age-group 11-14 and 12 per cent in the secondary stage were in school.

The most significant programme included in the Third Plan was the introduction of universal, free and compulsory education for the children in the age-group 6-11. Although this was a moderate and essential measure of social justice designed to secure the right of education for every child, it was the largest and most determined effort ever made to give effect to the Directive Principles of the Constitution on the subject.

The total number of additional children to be enrolled in the Third Plan would be 180 lakhs, out of which nearly 120 lakhs would be girls, as compared to 65 lakhs in the First Plan and 95 lakhs in the Second Plan.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Referring to secondary education, the Minister said that reorganisation of schools was taking place according to plan and about 20 per cent of the schools would have been converted to the Higher Secondary pattern by the end of the Second Plan. By the end of the Third Plan it was proposed to convert at least 50 per cent of the schools.

The reason why the objectives of multi-purpose education had not been so far fully realised was lack of trained personnel for teaching practical subjects. To overcome this

deficiency the Union Education Ministry was proposing to establish four regional Training Colleges.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Referring to the pressure of rising numbers in universities, the Minister said that Government were considering the question of introducing some system of external degrees and organising correspondence courses to provide suitable avenues to those who did not have facilities to pursue the normal full-time courses of instruction. In the Third Plan a provision for such facilities had been made for 60,000 students.

SCHOOL IN EVERY VILLAGE

The State Education Ministers' Conference made far-reaching recommendations for introducing compulsory primary education, improving the pay scales of school teachers, promoting national consciousness among students and propagation of Hindi.

The conference agreed to give top priority to implement the constitutional directive on primary education.

Reviewing the progress made so far for launching the programme of expansion in primary education during the Third Plan period, the Conference recommended that every State should enact a comprehensive and up-to-date law for the enforcement of compulsory primary education. The Delhi Primary Education Act, 1960, might be taken as a basis for consideration in this respect. Efforts should also be made to extend amenities and inducements such as free books, writing material and mid-day meals to needy students.

The conference recommended that the State Governments should take steps to provide all school-less villages with a school so that a

definite target to establish a school within easy accessible distance from the home of every child by the end of the Third Plan was achieved. Special attention in this connection should be paid to increasing the enrolment of girls and the children of backward communities. To achieve this end, interest and resources of the community should be mobilised fully.

ENROLMENT OF GIRLS

There was consensus of opinion among the State Education Ministers that the success of the programme for expanding primary education would largely depend on the additional enrolment of girls and especially upon the progress that would be made in this direction in the comparatively less advanced States. The Conference, therefore, recommended that adequate funds for the special programme in the expansion of the education of girls at all stages should be made available to the States and the programme should be included in the Centrally-sponsored sector with arrangements for grants-in-aid to State Governments on a 100% basis outside the ceilings that may be fixed for the State levels.

SALARIES OF TEACHERS

The Conference discussed and approved the recommendations made by a sub-committee appointed to examine the pay scales of teachers. These recommendations were based on the proposals of the Union Education Ministry that the minimum basic salary of trained and untrained primary teachers should be Rs. 50 and Rs. 40 respectively.

It was recommended that the triple-benefit scheme of provident fund-cum-insurance-cum-pension on the pattern adopted in Madras State should be introduced for primary teachers in all States and that the children of all primary teachers should receive free tuition till the end of the high school stage.

The question of differentiation that now existed in the D.A. to primary teachers and Government servants drawing the same basic salary, in some of the States, will be considered by a committee appointed for that purpose.

The State Education Ministers underlined the need for promoting national consciousness among students and bring about their emotional integration with the wider interests of the country. The Conference, therefore, decided to appoint an expert committee to go into this question in detail. The committee would submit its interim report to the Central Advisory Board of Education, meeting in January.

Meanwhile, the conference strongly supported the programme drawn up by the Union Education Ministry, which includes the singing of the national songs, compiling a history of India with special emphasis on cultural unity, and production of text-books depicting the achievements of people in different parts of the country.

PROPAGATION OF HINDI

For propagation of Hindi, the Conference recommended that adequate steps should be taken for the establishment of Hindi Teacher Training Colleges in non-Hindi-speaking States. It also recommended that the State Governments might make a survey of the existing arrangements for the propagation of Hindi and take steps for improving the existing facilities in collaboration with the Union Government. An important recommendation made in this connection was that efforts should be made to promote both Hindi and regional languages in different States simultaneously and start an elaborate programme of translating text and standard reference books from respective regional languages into Hindi and *vice versa*.

DEVELOPMENT OF MUSEUMS

The urgent need for training proper personnel for running museums in the country and better pay and service conditions for them were emphasised by Dr. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, while inaugurating the annual meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Museums in New Delhi on November 4. The meeting was attended by museum experts from all over the country.

The Minister said that he had

written to the Chief Ministers of all States suggesting the setting up of a separate Service for Archaeology and Museum staff and improvement of their salary scales. Many State Governments had agreed to this in principle.

Referring to the progress made in the development of museums in the country, Dr. Kabir said that the first phase of the new building for the National Museum in Delhi had already been completed and the Museum would be inaugurated in the new premises shortly. The Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad had been taken over, to be re-organised and developed into a National Museum for the South. Dr. Kabir added that as part of a project to develop State Museums, the Central Government had allocated about 37 lakhs of rupees in the last two years of the Second Five-Year Plan.

FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS

An announcement of November 8 says that a candidate has been selected for the award of a scholarship for higher studies in Electrical Engineering offered by the Government of France for 1959-60.

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 9, candidates have been selected for the award of three scholarships in Architecture from out of the 10 offered by the Government of Yugoslavia for 1960-61.

According to an announcement of November 12, three candidates have been awarded scholarships offered by the Government of Hungary for post-graduate research and training in the manufacture of scientific instruments in that country during 1960-61.

All these scholarships are administered by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, Government of India.

SPECIAL AWARD TO 'PATHER PANCHALI'

Satyajit Ray's 'Pather Panchali' trilogy was given a special Winnington film award by the Stage National Film Theatre, London, on October 30, during the London Film Festival presentations.

The Winnington award was founded in honour of the late

Richard Winnington, the well-known News Chronicle film critic.

This year the Winnington Committee had decided, for the first time since its inception three years ago, to give two awards—one for the film 'Hiroshima Mon Amour' and a special Winnington award to Shri Ray for his famous film trilogy.

GANDHI MEMORIAL AT RAJGHAT

In a written reply to a question, the Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, Shri A.K. Chanda, stated in the Lok Sabha on November 14 that the work on pile foundation for the construction of the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial at Rajghat, New Delhi, had been completed.

Pile caps under the retaining wall around the courtyard, except at the entrances to the courtyard, had also been completed. Casting pile caps at the entrances could be taken up after earth filling which was expected to be over by the third week of December.

A.I.R. LIAISON COMMITTEE

A New Delhi announcement of November 5 says that the Liaison Committee of All India Radio has been reconstituted with seven official and four non-official members for a further period of two years.

The AIR Liaison Committee was set up in 1956 to devise ways to bring Radio receiver prices within the reach of general public, to standardise sale practices all over the country, to take effective measures to reduce radio piracy and to pool all information regarding the production, sale and distribution, etc., of radios in the country.

AZAD BHAVAN

Azad Bhavan, which is to house the headquarters of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, was inaugurated by the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, on November 11.

The new building, which forms the main block, has cost about Rs. 7 lakhs. It houses a spacious library with cubicles for research workers, two exhibition galleries, a cafeteria, a recreation room,

seminar and committee rooms, guest rooms for visiting scholars, and administrative offices.

In the second phase, work on which is expected to begin by the end of this year, an auditorium to seat 500 people will be built.

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations is an autonomous body, set up by the Government of India

EVOLUTION OF SCIENTIFIC TERMS

The Advisory Board for Scientific and Technical Terminology held its first meeting in New Delhi on November 6 under the chairmanship of Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education. The Board recommended that in selecting or evolving equivalents for technical words in the Indian languages, efforts should be made to choose words which are common between as many of the regional languages as possible. The Board emphasised that care must be taken not to make the terminology unduly terse, purist or remote for 'users' of the terminology.

The Advisory Board also made a number of other important recommendations which would assist in the dissemination of the new terminology.

At the suggestion of the State Ministers present, it was agreed that, to ensure uniformity, the Indian form of international numerals only might be used in scientific and technical publications.

The various proposals outlined by Dr. D.S. Kothari, Chairman of the Standing Commission for evolving scientific and technical terminology in Indian languages, were also discussed.

STANDARD TEXT BOOKS

The Board recommended that earnest consideration should be given to the preparation of standard text books of science for use at the school level. Suitable authors, including teams of active scientists and teachers, should be invited on a national basis to produce scientific books which would be translated later in different languages. The translation into Indian languages of a small number of first-rate popular science books, as also the production of popular science

in 1950 to establish, revive and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries by means of promoting cultural exchange with other countries and establishing relations with national and international organisations in the field of culture.

journals in the several Indian languages, was emphasised. The State Ministers suggested that the production of the popular journals might be subsidised, if necessary.

The Board also accepted a suggestion that a multi-lingual dictionary in the Indian regional languages of terms up to the higher secondary stage be brought out as soon as possible, after the necessary coordination had been effected. As the Indian languages employ different scripts, the words in this dictionary could be written in the Indian scripts and also in Roman to overcome the 'script barrier'.

INTERNATIONAL TERMS

It was also recommended that international terms, such as the names of elements, compounds, physical units and constants, and mathematical operations should be adopted in the terminology of Hindi and other languages. These terms can be transliterated, wherever necessary, to suit the grammar and structure of the languages, unless there were compelling reasons to the contrary. International terms written in Devanagari and in other scripts should be invariably accompanied by their equivalent English terms written in brackets. Glossaries issued by the British Standards Institution should be followed as far as possible.

Members were of the view that the numerals, symbols, signs and forms employed in mathematics and other sciences should be adopted in their international form without modification. Letters used in geometrical figures and other diagrams and in mathematical expressions could normally be in the Roman alphabet; Greek letters may also be used, if necessary.

The Advisory Board also suggested that immediate steps should be taken to discourage the production of certain types of scientific literature in Indian languages which, in the name of indigenous terminology, used words, symbols, etc., violating all rational considerations and in contradiction to the 'International Terminology'.

It was agreed that State Governments should set up suitable agencies for evolution of terminology in the regional languages. These agencies would work in close co-operation with the Standing Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology.

GOVERNING BODY OF C.S.I.R. MEETS

The Governing Body of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research met in New Delhi on November 5, with the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, President of the C.S.I.R., in the chair.

A plan for the establishment of a Central Scientific Instruments Organisation at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 71.75 lakhs was approved.

Another important decision taken by the Council was about the establishment of a field unit of the Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute at the Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu, for undertaking tests and analyses of clays and minerals, of which rich deposits are available in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

For having a chemical and physical survey of coal deposits in Jammu and Kashmir, a field station is being established in Jammu.

A lignite briquetting plant for the manufacture of briquettes from Kashmir lignites will be established at Srinagar at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 6.7 lakhs.

PROPOSED PROJECTS

The Governing Body noted with satisfaction that generally good results were flowing out of the National Laboratories.

It was suggested that where products have been developed in the National Laboratories and proved to be of requisite specifications and

standards, every effort should be made to see that the manufacture of such products was well established and that they were put to the maximum use.

The Governing Body recommended that, in the implementation of import and other policies of Government, due regard might be given to the development of processes worked out in the National Laboratories.

The establishment of a Mica Research Station in the Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute at Calcutta, at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 8.54 lakhs, was approved. The proposed unit will undertake systematic study of properties of mica, the development of mica products, and the utilisation of waste mica and other allied problems.

It was agreed that pilot-plants for the manufacture of syntans at the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras, and production of lead dioxide electrodes at the Central Electro-Chemical Research Institute, Karaikudi, be set up.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

The Governing Body agreed that research in the field of corrosion should be organised on a national basis. It was of the view that systematic research towards development of methods and techniques to prevent corrosion would be in the long run of much economic benefit to industry and the various services.

It was noted that, as a result of the efforts of the Director-General of Scientific and Industrial Research, the C.S.I.R. has been able to get substantial foreign assistance for the establishment of the Indian Institute of Petroleum at Dehra Dun, the Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute at Durgapur, the Central Public Health Engineering Research Institute at Nagpur, the Central Mining Research Station at Dhanbad, and the National Aeronautical Laboratory at Bangalore. The assistance will be in the shape of experts, specialised equipment and training facilities abroad, totalling over Rs. 250 lakhs.



WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES IN THIRD PLAN

The Central Council of Local Self-Government, which held its meeting in Bangalore from November 8 to 10, has urged that high priority should be accorded to urban water supply and sanitation programmes by the Government of India, the Planning Commission and the State Governments. The Council felt that if the required amount could not be obtained under the provision of the Plan, it was essential to explore ways and means of augmenting resources and raising additional funds from the open market to enable State Governments to supplement their resources over and above what would be available under the Plan.

The Council emphasised that full advantage should be taken by the State Governments of financial assistance available for building houses for sweepers and scavengers. It recommended that in selecting slum areas for clearance, the State Government should give preference to areas where sweepers and scavengers were predominant. The Council further recommended that the State Governments should take steps to eliminate the practice of carrying night soil as head-load as early as possible and in any case before the end of the Third Plan.

Addressing the meeting of the Council, Shri Karmarkar said that a sum of Rs. 80 crores had been provided for in the Third Plan for water supply and sanitation schemes. This included a token provision of Rs. 2 crores for the completion of rural water supply and sanitation schemes which had been taken up in the current Plan.

SLUM CLEARANCE IN U.P. AND MAHARASHTRA

In a written reply to a question, Shri Anil K. Chanda, Union Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply, indicated in the Lok Sabha on November 14 that for slum clearance and improvement in Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi,

Agra and Lucknow, 3,453 tenements had been completed, while 912 were under construction up to the end of September 1960. The number of tenements sanctioned was 5381, and the approved cost of projects was Rs. 2,00,53,500.

In addition, the Uttar Pradesh Government had been authorised to sanction additional projects in Kanpur up to Rs. one crore only. The expenditure incurred up to September 1960 was Rs. 1.14 crores. The second Plan allocation for slum clearance and improvement projects was Rs. 1.96 crores.

SCHEMES IN MAHARASHTRA

In a written reply to another question, the Deputy Minister laid a statement on the Table of the House, which showed that in Maharashtra, 1184 tenements had been completed, while 4366 were under construction. The number of plots cleared was 732.

The statement further indicated that sanction had been given to the development or construction of 12062 tenements and 1228 plots at an approved cost of Rs. 526.53 lakhs. The Central assistance admissible for the projects as loan was Rs. 209.63 lakhs and subsidy Rs. 185.29 lakhs.

The Deputy Minister also stated that the Malegaon slum clearance project which had been sanctioned by the Government of Maharashtra at a cost of Rs. 5,90,592, envisaged re-housing of 192 slum families in 192 single-storeyed 'small two-roomed' tenements. The project which was awaiting approval of the Government of India would qualify for Central assistance at the rate of 50 per cent loan and 25 per cent subsidy calculated on the basis of the approved cost.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

A Conference of the State Ministers in charge of Town and Country Planning was held in

Bangalore on November 7 under the chairmanship of Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Union Minister of Health.

The Council discussed the progress of urban and regional planning programmes which included preparation and implementation of master plans for towns, cities and regions, enactment of planning legislation and setting up of town and country planning organisations at the State and local levels.

Training of personnel in town and country planning, expansion of training facilities, and problems of land acquisition for urban development were also discussed.

COST OF LAND DEVELOPMENT

Addressing the conference, Shri D.P. Karmarkar said that, according to the Central Regional and Urban Planning Organisations set up under the Ministry of Health to assist and advise State Governments, the estimated cost of developing urban land to meet the demands of the population during the next 20 years would be Rs. 4000 crores. This was a colossal amount and one of the ways to find this money was through taxation on appreciation of land values.

U.S. AID FOR MALARIA ERADICATION PROGRAMME

An agreement was signed between the Governments of India and of the United States in New Delhi on November 2 for a further U.S. grant of \$ 10,377,000 (Rs. 4.9 crores) to India's Malaria Eradication Programme. This brings the total U.S. aid to the Programme to Rs. 44.8 crores.

The grant will be utilised for the purchase abroad of 16,730 tons of DDT powder, 100 pick-up trucks with spare parts, and drugs used in the treatment of malaria.

Since 1953 the United States has met most of the foreign exchange needs of the campaign against malaria. In addition to dollar grants, the United States has made available to the Malaria Eradication Programme rupees acquired through the sale of agricultural commodities shipped to India under Public Law 480.

PRODUCTION OF ANTIBIOTICS

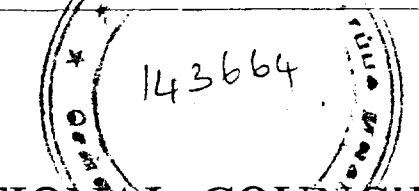
In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 14, the Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, stated that the programme for expansion of penicillin production by 60 per cent at Pimpri from 25 million mega units to 40 million mega units annually had been completed.

In regard to the manufacture of streptomycin and dihydrostrepto-

mycin, civil works in respect of the factory building were in progress. The plant was expected to commence production by the end of 1961, he said.

The pilot plant for tetracyclines with a capacity of 1.5 tons annually was under construction.

A detailed project report for the production of 50 tons of Vitamin 'C' at the Pimpri Factory was being prepared in consultation with the National Chemical Laboratory.



REPORT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR WOMEN'S EDUCATION

The first Report of the National Council for Women's Education was presented at the State Education Ministers' Conference in New Delhi on November 4.

The Report, covering the period September 1959 to October 1960, outlines the social programme drawn up for the expansion and improvement of education of girls and women. A sub-committee of the Council, which went into the question, drew up a comprehensive programme for making available increased facilities such as quarters for women teachers, scholarships and stipends for girls and women teachers, village all-woman teachers in rural areas, condensed courses for training women teachers, and free tuition to certain categories of girls and free or subsidised transport.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES

According to the Report, National Institutes for Women's Education are to be set up in the country with the idea of training promising women for high-level executive jobs in fields where women personnel are in short supply.

A committee under the chairmanship of Shrimati Indira Gandhi has been set up by the National Council for working out the details of the scheme. A tentative outlay

of Rs. 1 crore has been fixed for the scheme during the Third Plan period.

The proposal envisages setting up of one or two such institutes, in the first instance, which would conduct research in the training and development of the latent powers for leadership in women.

TARGETS OF ENROLMENT

The targets for enrolment of girls during the Third Plan, suggested by the Council, envisage that the education of girls should be as fully developed as that of boys in the age-group 6-11. Enrolment of girls in the age-group 11-14 should be at least half of that of boys in the same age-group and enrolment of girls in the age-group 14-17 should be at least one-third of that of boys of the same age-group. Besides, the education of girls at the university stage should be expanded as largely as possible and special educational facilities for women should be made available in every block of 100 villages. The Council envisages an expenditure of Rs. 100 crores for the special programme in the Third Plan.

The Union Education Ministry reviewed the position, taking into account the likely achievement in respect of enrolment of girls by the end of the Second Plan period.

The Education Ministry felt that the feasible target for enrolment of girls at a primary stage would be 50 per cent of girls in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh, and 90 per cent in the remaining States and the Union Territories. Even this would mean more than trebling the present rate of enrolment of girls.

Regarding the middle stage, the Ministry agreed to the suggestion of the Council that the minimum enrolment should be 12.5 per cent of girls in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh and 25 per cent in the remaining States and Union Territories. The rate of enrolment envisaged was double the present rate. At the secondary stage, the Education Ministry suggested that the enrolment target should be 5 per cent for girls in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh and 10 per cent in the remaining States and Union Territories.

The outlay agreed to by the Planning Commission on these schemes has been fixed at Rs. 17 crores. The allocations are: primary education—Rs. 5 crores; middle—Rs. 6 crores; secondary—Rs. 5 crores; and university—Rs. 1 crore.

REVIEW OF PROGRAMME

The Report states that the Union Ministry of Education has proposed the following schemes during the Third Plan on the estimated outlay of Rs. 17 crores:

1. Special programme for expansion of girls' education and training of women teachers at the elementary stage—outlay Rs. 11 crores.
2. Special programme for expansion of girls' education at the secondary stage—outlay Rs. 5 crores.
3. Establishment of National Institute for the Higher education and training of women—outlay Rs. 1 crore.
4. Scheme to provide financial assistance for putting up buildings for setting up industrial training Centres—outlay Rs. 58.80 lakhs.

Besides the estimated allocation of Rs. 17 crores, the University

Grants Commission has, subject to availability of funds, decided to earmark Rs. 2 crores for the construction of hostels for girls in colleges. The Central Social Welfare Board has also set apart Rs. 3 crores for condensed educational courses for adult women.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

According to the Report, a beginning is to be made in the Third Plan to provide training in vocational trades for girls and women. Two training centres for girls and women with the requisite educational qualifications will be started in each State and each centre will provide courses in 9 trades.

The Report says that, following discussions with Union Ministries of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, and Education and the Planning Commission, a scheme has now been finalised for the establishment of junior technical schools and polytechnics for girls and women in each State and Territory at an estimated expenditure of about Rs. 5 crores. The scheme has been circulated to the State Governments for inclusion in the Third Plan.

The First Report of the Council also discloses that the State Councils for Women's Education have been constituted till now in Bihar, Mysore, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Delhi and Pondicherry.

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

November 14, the birthday of Prime Minister Nehru, was celebrated all over the country as the Children's Day with constructive and cultural programmes for children.

In a speech broadcast on the eve of the Children's Day, the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, commended the movement for children in the Madras State. On their own initiative, the teachers of this State organised a movement a few years ago for providing free school uniform and mid-day meals for school children. Within four or five years, this movement has gathered

momentum and enlisted State-wide co-operation, including that of the Government. The result is that about three-fourths of the children in Madras get free meals and they hope to cover the remaining one-fourth also within a year or so. The President commended this experiment to other States. The next step should be to bestow greater care on children and to improve the buildings and surroundings of our schools, he said.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad continued, "I believe this would be only possible if parents, local bodies and State Governments resolved on this day to give first priority to the problem of the children, who are the nation's most precious treasure. Let me hope the countrywide observance of the Children's Day will give impetus to this idea and in course of time the 14th November will be marked out as the day of a national movement for the betterment of India's children".

CHILDREN'S HISTORY OF INDIA

A history of India, written specially for children, was published on the Children's Day. The 166-page book, entitled 'Children's History of India', has been published by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

This publication, which covers the exciting pageant of Indian history from the very earliest times to the present day, gives no dates.

Commending the book, the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, says, 'I have looked through this little book and have liked it. We lack good books on the history of India, more especially for children. This book fills a vacuum and fills it well. The language is easy and suited to young boys and girls'.

SWEDISH GIFT

On the Children's Day, the Swedish Ambassador in India, Mrs. Alva Myrdal, presented a cheque for Rs. 5,000, on behalf of the children of Stockholm, to Ira—a girl from village Pipardi (Gujarat)—for the construction of a school in her village.

The amount was raised by the school children of Stockholm by arranging functions and contribut-

ing from their pocket money on knowing from an Indian visitor the difficulties being faced by India in educating her vast population.

C.D. AREAS' GIFTS

People in C.D. Blocks all over the country presented 4571 schools in connection with this year's Children's Day, according to reports received in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation.

Mysore with 1900 schools leads, Bihar following suit with 1707. Rajasthan with 450 schools comes third.

The number of schools presented this year is nearly sevenfold the previous year's figure of 638 schools.

Cash contributions and miscellaneous gifts made this year total over Rs. 164 lakhs, as against Rs. 25 lakhs of last year's. Included in this year's figures of gifts is the value of improvements carried out under the School Improvement Movement in 8112 schools in Madras State.

Children's recreation centres, parks, playgrounds and libraries presented on the occasion number 10,082 as against 1614 of last year's. Land donated this year totals 2685 acres as against 966½ acres presented on Children's Day in 1959.

While rural insurance totals Rs. 4 crores, the figure for small savings amounts to Rs. 4 lakhs.

SPECIAL STAMP

The Posts and Telegraphs Department issued a special 15-nP postage stamp on the Children's Day.

The special postage stamp seeks to depict two important aspects of child life, namely, recreation and study.

The stamp is horizontal in design, the size being 3.91 cms x 2.90 cms. The stamp has been printed in olive green on paper bearing an all-over multiple water-mark of the 'Lion Capital of Asoka'.

PRIZES TO BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

The Ministry of Education has announced on November 14 the award of four prizes of Rs. 1,000 each and 21 prizes of Rs. 500 each to the authors of 25 books/manuscripts under the Sixth Prize Competition for

Children's Literature. Language-wise, 3 prizes each have gone to books in Hindi, Marathi, Tamil and Telugu; 2 prizes each to Assamese, Gujarati, Oriya, Punjabi and Urdu; and one prize each to Malayalam, Sindhi and Kashmiri.

In addition to the above prizes, two books, one in Kannada and the other in Telugu, have also been approved for the purchase of 2,000 copies each.

The result of the entries in Bengali language are to be announced later.

In addition to the award of prizes, 2,000 copies each of the prize-winning books will be purchased for distribution in schools, libraries, children's centres, etc.

The Ministry of Education has also announced the award of five additional prizes of Rs. 500 each to the authors of five books which were awarded prizes of Rs. 500 each in the fifth Competition.

PRIZES TO BOOKS FOR NEO-LITERATES

In a Press Note, dated November 10, the Union Ministry of Education announced the award of 38 prizes of Rs. 500 each to the authors of books and manuscripts in the Indian languages on the results of the Seventh Competition for Books for Neo-Literates under the Government of India's Scheme 'Encouragement to Popular Literature'.

The result of the competition in respect of Oriya books, for which two prizes will be awarded, will be announced later.

The books and manuscripts include 2 in Assamese, 4 in Bengali, 4 in Gujarati, 8 in Hindi, 3 in Kannada, 4 in Malayalam, 4 in Marathi, 2 in Punjabi, 2 in Tamil, 3 in Telugu and 2 in Urdu.

Out of these 38 books and manuscripts, a further selection of five best books will be made for additional awards of Rs. 500 each. For this purpose, the authors of the prize-winning books and manuscripts may send English translations of their books and manuscripts to the Union Ministry of Education for consideration for additional prizes. These awards will be announced some time in February or March, 1961.

About 600 books were received for the competition this year.

The scheme 'Encouragement of Popular Literature' was introduced in 1954 to provide wholesome literature in adequate quantity for literates, as well as for neo-literate adults and juveniles in the country. Under the scheme, prizes are awarded annually for good books for neo-literates in every regional language and, at the same time, prize-winning books and their approved translations in other regional languages are bought in bulk for distribution in community projects, N.E.S. blocks and other educational centres.

In the earlier six competitions, 201 books have been awarded prizes of Rs. 500 each and 30 books of Rs. 1,000 each.

PHASED PROGRAMME OF PROHIBITION

The Central Prohibition Committee, set up by Government to review the progress of prohibition in different States and to co-ordinate the activities in this connection, held its first meeting in New Delhi on November 12 and 13 under the chairmanship of Shri B.N. Datar, Minister in the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Committee has suggested to the States to stop drinking in public premises, such as hotels, restaurants and clubs. The hotels, clubs and restaurants will have, however, a licensed side-room set apart for such persons as are permitted under the Rules to take drink there. For instance, in the Delhi and Rajasthan hotels, only foreigners will be allowed to do so, and in clubs only the members will enjoy such a facility.

DRY BELT

Extending their general support to prohibition, the members discussed several measures to stop smuggling of liquor from the wet areas to the adjoining dry areas. The general view was that a 10-mile belt be created adjoining the dry areas of the neighbouring States. Some States, it was disclosed, were already having a dry belt of 3 to 5 miles adjoining the dry areas of other States.

As regards measures to stop illicit distillation, especially in dry

areas, the members requested the States to forward their suggestions to the Central Committee in the light of their experiences or the scientific studies they might have had in their areas. This data would be placed before the next meeting of the Central Committee.

BAN ON ADVERTISEMENT

The Committee suggested that advertisements and public inducements relating to drinking should be discontinued. As far as possible, the papers and parties concerned should be persuaded; but, if necessary, suitable legislation be adopted. Majority of the State representatives informed the Committee that there was no such propaganda in their areas.

The Committee was also informed that most of the States had banned *ganja* and *bang* in their areas. Some of the States which had not adopted such a measure so far proposed to do so in the near future.

MINIMUM PROGRAMME

The Committee suggested various measures to the States for implementation by the end of the Second Plan. One was to reduce progressively the strength of country liquor and the quantities supplied to liquor shops. The other was to close shops in or near specified industrial and other development project areas. Yet another was to remove shops to places away from main streets and living quarters in towns and villages.

The Committee also requested the States to take active steps to encourage and promote cheap and healthy soft drinks and to assist voluntary agencies in organising recreation centres.

It was suggested that prohibition be included as an item of constructive work in Community Development Blocks, Social Welfare Extension Projects, and Social Education and Publicity programmes. A systematic and planned educative propaganda should also be carried out and, for this purpose, the services of voluntary and welfare organisations and social workers be

enlisted. The influence of women-folk might be utilised in women's clubs and women's welfare organisations so as to wean away those who are in the habit of drinking.

All the State Governments, except Jammu and Kashmir, have taken steps to enforce a phased programme of prohibition.

ALLOTABLE SHOPS AND PLOTS

According to a Press Note issued on November 13, the Ministry of Rehabilitation has decided that members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes, who are in authorised occupation of allotable shops and acquired evacuee plots, i.e., the value of which is Rs. 10,000 or under, can acquire proprietary rights in them, provided they pay 20% of the price in cash and the balance in seven equated annual instalments or by association of claims.

Earlier, by a Press Note issued in April 1959, this concession was given in respect of residential houses only. Now on the representation of some of the affected persons, the Ministry of Rehabilitation has decided to extend it to shops and acquired evacuee plots as well.

EVACUEES' INTEREST IN COMPOSITE PROPERTIES

In a Press Note issued on November 11, the Ministry of Rehabilitation has announced that the Government of India have decided to impose a time-limit for entertaining applications from claimants for separation of their interests from those of evacuees in composite properties. A notification has accordingly been issued fixing October 15, 1961, as the final date for receipt of such applications under Section 6 of the Evacuee Interest (Separation) Act, 1951, as amended recently by Parliament.

This time limit has been prescribed in order to expedite the completion of work under the Act. The Act of 1951 provided no time-limit until the recent amendment. Claimants have already had the

last several years to present their applications. The amendment allows an additional final period of one year for presenting applications. The powers conferred by the Act on Competent Officers to entertain claims even after the specified period of sixty days after issue of a general or special notice under Section 6 have now been withdrawn.

The Evacuee Interest (Separation) Amendment Act, 1960, introducing these amendments in the Union Territories has come into force with effect from October 15, 1960. State Governments have also promulgated corresponding enactments giving effect to these amendments in their respective territories.

CLAIMS OF D.Ps. SETTLED IN JAMMU

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Rehabilitation on November 11 says that some of the displaced persons from West Pakistan who have settled in the Jammu district of the Jammu and Kashmir State, it is understood, did not file claims in respect of the property left by them in West Pakistan under the Displaced Persons (Claims) Act, 1950, nor did they submit applications for rehabilitation grant, in the belief that they would receive rehabilitation assistance in the same manner as migrants from the Pakistan-occupied areas of the Jammu and Kashmir State.

As, however, displaced persons from West Pakistan are governed by the provisions of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954, and the Rules made thereunder, in the matter of compensation for immovable properties left by them in West Pakistan, such persons settled in the Jammu district can be considered only for rehabilitation grant which is payable on the same scale as compensation. They are accordingly permitted, as a special case, on the recommendation of the Jammu and Kashmir Government, to file applications for rehabilitation grant under rule 95 of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules, 1955, by December 31, 1960.

Labour & Employment

COURT OF INQUIRY FOR LABOUR

An announcement of November 2 says that the Government of India have constituted a Court of Inquiry to examine the question of abolition of contract labour in the coal mining industry. Shri G. Palit, Presiding Officer, Central Government Industrial Tribunal, Dhanbad, will be its sole member.

The Court of Inquiry will examine whether the system of employment of labour through contractors in the coal mining industry can be abolished without impairing productivity and, if so, in which sectors of employment and within what period. It will also consider what measures, statutory or otherwise, should be devised to ensure fair wages and conditions of work to labour employed through contractors and sub-contractors, to the extent the contract system cannot be abolished in the industry.

A decision was taken at the last meeting of the Industrial Committee on Coal Mining, held in April 1960, to refer the question to a Court of Inquiry.

HOUSES FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

A New Delhi announcement of November 6 says that five projects for the construction of 1,242 houses for industrial workers were sanctioned by the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Mysore and West Bengal during September, 1960.

These houses will be located at the industrial centres at Ghatkesar (Andhra Pradesh), Madurai (Madras), Mandhya (Mysore), and Asansol and Durgapur (West Bengal). The construction of these houses is part of the Government's scheme to provide amenities to industrial workers.

At Durgapur, 600 houses, estimated to cost Rs. 23.10 lakhs, will be available to the workers serving a private employer at the project. The remaining houses, numbering 642, will be constructed by the four State Governments and are estimated

to cost Rs. 27.14 lakhs. Half the total cost will be borne by the Central Government as subsidy, and the balance as loans.

MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The National Productivity Council and the I.L.O. have jointly sponsored an advance Management Project which commenced at Bangalore on November 14. The Project was inaugurated by the Union Labour Minister, Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda. The first phase of the

project would close on December 10 with a one-day seminar.

The Management Project includes a high-level advanced management programme of four weeks' duration and is intended for a selected group of senior executives in the public and private sectors. The programme has been specially designed to cater for the needs of men in Indian industries who are responsible for the implementation and control of the policies made by Company-heads and Boards of Directors.

Prime Minister Nehru will inaugurate a 3-day conference commencing from December 16, which will mark the second phase of the Project. Shri Morarji Desai, the Union Finance Minister, will address the closing session of the project.

The States

LAND FOR HOUSING IN RAJASTHAN

According to an announcement of November 4, the President has given assent to the Rajasthan Housing Schemes (Land Acquisition) Bill, 1960.

The bill seeks to check rise in land prices and makes it available at reasonable cost for approved housing schemes. The State Government has, therefore, armed itself with powers to freeze land prices for purposes of acquisition at rates prevalent at the commencement of the Rajasthan Land Acquisition Act.

FORESTS IN U.P.

An announcement of November 2 says that the President has given assent to the Indian Forest (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1960, which provides for afforestation, growth, development and protection of trees in certain forest areas of Uttar Pradesh.

The bill empowers the State Government to take over, initially for a period of 15 years, certain forest areas where their development and growth is essential in public interest. Provision has also

been made for more effective deterrent to habitual law-breakers as well as for curtailing protracted and expensive prosecution in courts.

HABITUAL OFFENDERS IN KERALA

According to an announcement of November 9, the President has given assent to the Kerala Habitual Offenders Bill, 1960, which imposes certain restrictions on habitual offenders.

The Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1948, is in force in the Malabar area of the Kerala State. There is no corresponding law applicable to the remaining areas of the State. The State Government promoted the present bill to have a uniform law on the subject throughout the State.

UNION TERRITORIES TO SPEND MORE

A New Delhi announcement of November 9 says that by the end of the Second Plan, the six Union Territories—Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands—will have spent more than the money allocated to them.

The total outlay contemplated for the territories was Rs. 53.09 crores. It is anticipated that the expenditure will be about Rs. 54.41 crores, an excess of 2.5 per cent.

The four Territories—Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Manipur and Tripura, equal to Ceylon in area, 24,148 sq. miles, and to Ghana in population, 45 lakhs.

In Delhi, the anticipated outlay is Rs. 17.80 crores as against Rs. 16.97 crores proposed initially. In Himachal Pradesh, the figure will go up to Rs. 16.66 crores in place of Rs. 14.73 crores in the beginning. In Manipur, there will be no difference, as the outlay will remain the same, i.e., Rs. 6.25 crores. In Tripura, the outlay will increase from Rs. 8.47 crores to Rs. 9.26 crores. In the Island Territories, there will be a shortfall: in Andaman and Nicobar Islands of about Rs. 2 crores and in Laccadive Islands of about Rs. 30 lakhs.

DEVELOPMENT OF LAND IN DELHI

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 15, Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, said that the Government of India had decided to start a revolving fund for the development of land acquired in the Union Territory of Delhi. Necessary provision in this regard would be proposed for incorporation in the budget estimates for 1961-62.

RELEASE OF ACQUIRED COLONIES

In a written reply to another question, Shri Karmarkar said that out of 34070 acres of land notified for acquisition by the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, on November 13 last year, 16 colonies, comprising an area of 466 acres of land, had been released. Layout plans of these

colonies had been fully sanctioned by a competent local authority.

LOW-INCOME GROUP HOUSING IN DELHI

According to an announcement of November 3, the Delhi Administration received a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs from the Government of India in October last under the Low-Income Group Housing Scheme. This amount will be disbursed as house-building loans to prospective house-builders in the Capital.

The administration sanctioned Rs.

29.16 lakhs and disbursed Rs. 10.39 lakhs as loans during the first half of the current financial year under the scheme.

Since the inception of the scheme in November 1954 up to the end of September 1960, house-building loans for the construction of 3,740 houses, involving a sum of Rs. 1.85 crores, had been sanctioned in the Union Territory of Delhi. The amount actually disbursed was of the order of Rs. 1.43 crores.

Out of the total number of 3,740 houses, 2,737 houses have already been completed.

Defence

ORDNANCE OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

Maj-Gen. W.T. Wilson, Director of Ordnance Services, Army HQ, opened a six-day conference of Senior Ordnance Officers in New Delhi on November 14.

The conference was attended by the Brigadiers (Ordnance Corps) from the three Army Commands and commandants of central depots and training establishments, as well as commanding officers of other important ordnance installations in the country.

ARMY SERVICE CORPS

A three-day conference of Senior Officers of the Army Service Corps opened in New Delhi on November 10. The conference, which was presided over by Maj-Gen. G.S. Gill, Director of Supply and Transport, Quartermaster-General's Branch, Army HQ, was attended by 25 officers from Army HQ and the three Commands.

N.C.C. DAY

Simultaneously with the NCC anniversary celebrations in Delhi and Himachal Pradesh, No. 2 Circle in Madras, No. 6 Circle in Uttar Pradesh, No. 8 Circle in Punjab and No. 10 Circle in Mysore observed the NCC Day on November 6.

The programmes included ceremonial parades and mass P.T. displays.

NAVAL N.C.C. UNIT

The 16th Delhi Naval Unit of the National Cadet Corps, the first unit of its kind to be raised in the capital, was formally inaugurated on November 6 by Vice-Admiral R.D. Katari, Chief of the Naval Staff.

The unit comprises in all about 350 officers and cadets belonging to both the Senior and the Junior Divisions and they are drawn from local colleges and schools.



SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

A one-month Asian Regional Training Course on social security administration began at New Delhi from November 1.

Organised jointly by the International Labour Office under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, the International Social Security Association and the Government of India, the training course is designed primarily to provide theoretical and practical instruction in the administrative aspect of social insurance and related schemes, with particular reference to organisation and management.

About 20 delegates from Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Japan, Burma, Viet-Nam, China (Taiwan) and India are attending the course.

ITALIAN STUDENT IN INDIA

Miss Maria Offredi, a Hindi student of the 'Universita' Catholica del Sacro cuore, Milan, arrived in

New Delhi on November 10 for a four-week stay in India. She has been selected by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs for the award of a prize during 1960-61, which will be in the form of a free round-trip to India.

Under the Cultural Activities Programme, the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs invites students of modern Indian languages from foreign countries for about a month's visit to India.

NEW AMBASSADORS

Mr. Necdet Kent, Ambassador-designate of Turkey, presented his credentials to the President at Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 15.

HIGH COMMISSIONER OF U.K.

Sir Paul Gore-Booth, High Commissioner-designate of the U.K. to India, presented his credentials to the President at Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 5.

AMBASSADOR OF IRAQ

Mr. Nuri Jamil, Ambassador-designate of Iraq, presented his credentials to the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, at Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 1.

AMBASSADOR TO U.A.R.

Shri Muhammad Azim Husain, Indian Ambassador-designate to the United Arab Republic, presented his credentials to President Nasser in Cairo on November 2.

AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA

A New Delhi announcement of November 4 says that Shri Muhammad Azim Husain, Ambassador of India to the United Arab Republic, has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador of India to Libya and as Minister to Lebanon, with residence in Cairo.

AMBASSADOR TO BURMA

The Indian Ambassador-designate to Burma, Shri R.S. Mani, presented his credentials to Burmese President U Win Maung, at a ceremony held at the President's House in Rangoon on November 7.

MINISTER TO ALBANIA

Shri S.N. Haksar, India's Minister to Albania, presented his credentials to the President of Albania on November 9 in Tirana.

INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY

32ND COURSE—JANUARY 1962

The Union Public Service Commission will hold an entrance examination on the 18th and 19th April, 1961 at Allahabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bombay, Calcutta, Cuttack, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jammu, Madras, Nagpur, Patiala, Patna, Shillong and Trivandrum.

AGE-LIMITS : Candidates must have been born not earlier than 2nd January, 1941 and not later than the 1st January, 1944. **THESE AGE-LIMITS CAN IN NO CASE BE RELAXED.**

MINIMUM EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS : Intermediate or its equivalent. Applications from candidates, who have appeared or intend to appear for Intermediate or its equivalent examination, are acceptable provisionally.

SELECTION : Candidates, who qualify at the written examination, shall appear before a Services Selection Board for interview and Physical Endurance Test.

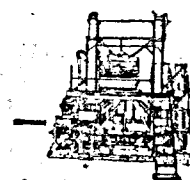
APPLICATION FORMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM THE NEAREST RECRUITING OFFICE, MILITARY SUB-AREA HEAD-QUARTERS OR NATIONAL CADET CORPS UNIT.

Application forms can also be had from the Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, DHQ PO NEW DELHI-11, by remitting Re. 1 by money order (to be adjusted towards fees later on). Postal orders or cheques or currency notes are not accepted. Candidates must state on the money order coupons "INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY EXAMINATION, APRIL 1961" and also give their name and full postal address in block letters.

ONLY UNMARRIED MALE CANDIDATES CAN APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO THIS EXAMINATION.

Last date for receipt of applications is 26th December, 1960 for those residing in India and 9th January, 1961 for those residing abroad.

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EVENTS AT A GLANCE

NOVEMBER 1 TO 15

November 1—A high-speed radio-telegraph link between India and Philippines is established.

—The Government of India announce the appointment of a three-man team to study the system of Panchayat Courts.

2—Dr. Theodor Heuss, former President of the Federal Republic of Germany, arrives in New Delhi on a three-week visit to India.

—An agreement is signed between India and the U.S.A. for a further grant of about Rs. 4.9 crores for India's Malaria Eradication Programme, thus bringing the total U.S. aid to Rs. 44.8 crores for this purpose.

—The Government of India set up a one-member Court of Inquiry to examine the question of the abolition of contract labour in the mining industry.

3—A Trade and Payments Agreement is signed at Prague between India and Czechoslovakia for a period of three years from January 1, 1961.

—The Government of India constitute a seven-member committee to carry out a comprehensive examination of the working of the Central Excise Department.

4—The Indian team for the final round of talks, to be held in Rangoon with Chinese officials on Sino-Indian border issues, leaves New Delhi.

—A two-day conference of State Ministers of Education begins in New Delhi.

6—The Heavy Electrical Plant at Bhopal is inaugurated by Prime Minister Nehru.

—The Government of India constitute a National Cooperative Farming Advisory Board.

7—A conference of State Ministers in-charge of Town and Country Planning begins in Bangalore.

8—A two-day conference of State Governors opens in New Delhi.

9—The Government of India set up a Study Team on Cooperative Training and Education to examine the adequacy of the present arrangements for cooperative education and training.

10—H.E. U Nu, Prime Minister of Burma, arrives at Calcutta on a ten-day visit to India.

—Mr. Mahamoud Younes, Chairman and Managing Director, Suez Canal Authority of the U.A.R., arrives in New Delhi on a week's visit to India.

11—Discussions begin in New Delhi between the trade delegation of Burma and the Government of India.

—The National Harbour Board holds a special meeting in New Delhi.

12—Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko of Japan arrive in Calcutta on a State visit to India.

13—India win the second Women's Hockey Test against Ceylon in New Delhi.

14—The Lok Sabha assembles for the winter session.

—The Children's Day, which coincides with the birthday of Prime Minister Nehru, is celebrated all over the country.

15—India win the third Women's Hockey Test against Ceylon in Lucknow.

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The members of the successful Nanda Ghunti Expedition with the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, when they called on him at Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 10



The Union Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha (holding a handbag), at Palam airport on November 10, before she left for Tokyo as the leader of Indian delegation to the Colombo Plan Conference



A three-year trade and payments agreement between India and Czechoslovakia being signed in Prague on November 3

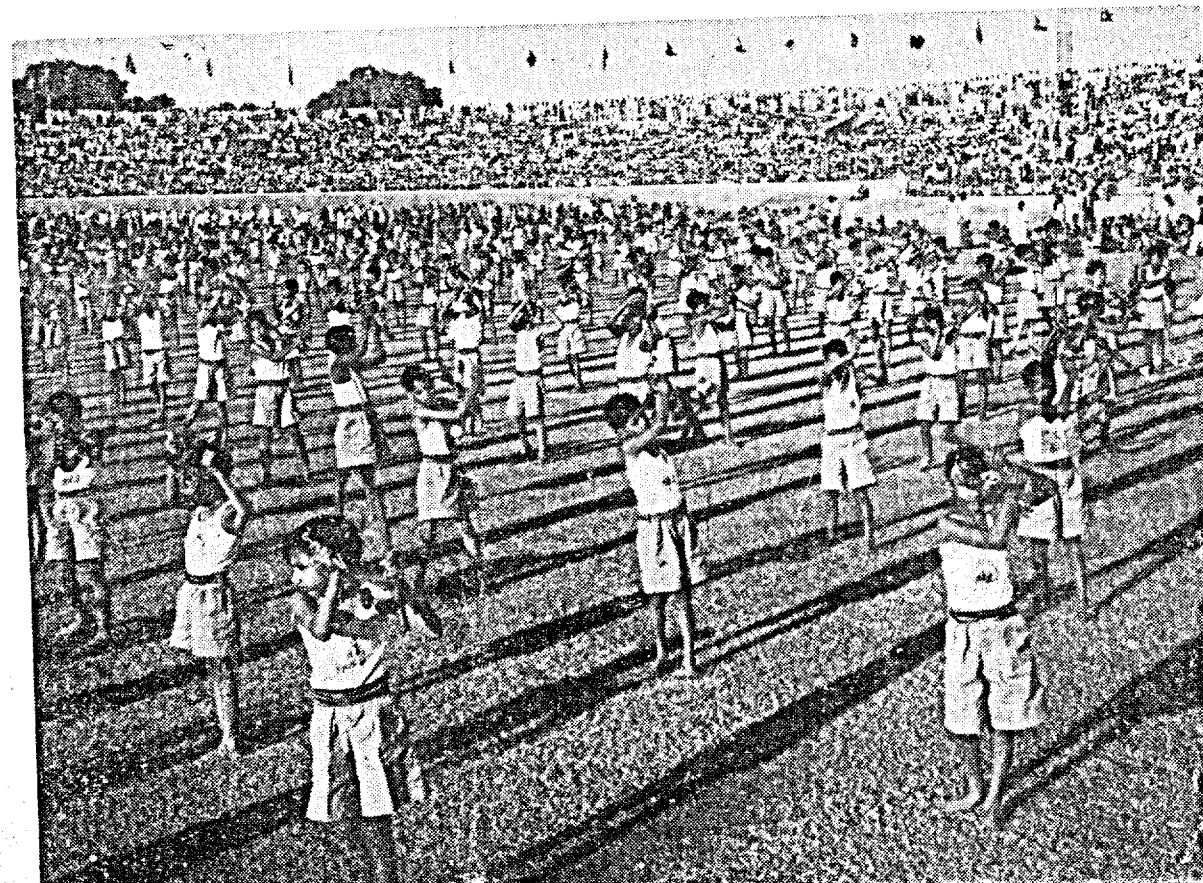




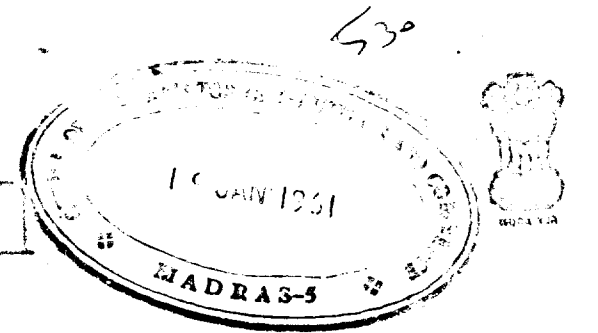
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The Children's Day, which coincides with the Prime Minister's birthday anniversary, is celebrated in India on November 14 every year. A number of functions of special interest to children are held all over the country on that day. Crowds of children visit the Prime Minister's House at New Delhi to offer felicitations to the Prime Minister on the occasion.

The picture on the left shows a child greeting the Prime Minister. The picture below shows a mass demonstration of 'lezim' given by young school children at a rally in New Delhi on the occasion.



Indian Information



Vol. 3

December 15, 1960 (24 Agrahayana 1882)

No. 22





Prime Minister Nehru receiving the leader of the goodwill delegation from Morocco in New Delhi on November 19



H.E. Mr. Moomammad Shoaib, Finance Minister of Pakistan, with Shri Morarji Desai, Finance Minister of India, when the former arrived at Delhi railway station on November 23 for talks on the outstanding financial issues between the two countries



An agreement on the Indo-Burma rice deal being signed in New Delhi on November 23

Indian Information

VOL. 3

December 15, 1960
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NO. 22

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(Indian Information seeks to provide a condensed record of the activities and official announcements of the Government of India. Because of space limitation many items appear in summarized form. Such items should not be treated as complete and authoritative versions).

Political & General

CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF JAPAN VISIT INDIA

Their Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko of Japan arrived in New Delhi on November 29 after a two-day stay in Bombay during the course of their visit to India. Welcoming the royal guests at Palam airport, the President Dr. Rajendra Prasad said: "Your visit is a most auspicious and significant event in the history of Indo-Japanese relations. You have already visited two of our leading cities, Calcutta and Bombay, and must have sensed the friendly

feelings and goodwill that we in India have for you and your great country."

In his statement made at Palam airport, His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince of Japan said: "I am here as representative of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan to return the courtesy of His Excellency the President's visit to Japan, which, together with the visits of other leaders of India to our country, was an event of the greatest significance in the history of friendly relations between our two countries. At the

same time, I have come here to convey to the people of India the warmest greetings of the Japanese people.

It has been our long cherished desire to visit this country, where one of the great civilizations of mankind originated, and this desire of ours is now fulfilled, thanks to the cordial invitation of the President."

A State banquet was given in honour of Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince and Princess of Japan, at Rashtrapathi Bhavan

143664

on November 29. Speaking on the occasion, the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, said:

"For me who had the privilege of visiting your country some two years ago, this occasion brings back cherished memories of a great and beautiful country and a charming and dynamic people. I returned to India with the lasting impression that the bonds that link us will grow stronger as time passes, for our ideals are the same and spring from the same ancient traditions. The visit of Your Imperial Highnesses will reinforce these ties of understanding and mutual regard and strengthen our efforts for the establishment of lasting peace in the world.

"To us in India, Japan is a striking example of a rapidly changing society in which traditional patterns are gracefully adapting themselves to modern requirements. Your country's attempt to preserve and maintain a balance between the old and the new, the rising tempo of your economic development that affects all levels of society and your rapid recovery from the tragedy of war are surely sources of inspiration for other Asian countries."

In his reply, H.I.H. The Crown Prince of Japan said: "In recent years, our people seem to have come to be interested, more keenly than ever, in the industrial growth of the new India and the important role she is playing in international affairs, because, I believe, our people are increasingly concerned about the welfare of our fellow Asians and the preservation of peace. In this respect, our two countries certainly have a goal in common and are determined to attain it. I hope its attainment will be expedited by the joint efforts of our two countries."

CROSS-ROAD OF CULTURES

H.I.H. the Crown Prince of Japan laid the foundation stone of the India International Centre in New Delhi on November 30. Speaking on the occasion, H.I.H. the Crown Prince said:

"The present-day India has become one of the most important cross-roads of the Eastern and Western cultures as visualized by successive visits of so many distinguished scholars and artists of

world-known to this country in recent years. The functions to be played by this International Centre, therefore, can be of great significance not only for the cultural development of India alone but also for the sake of the whole world. We can foretell it with absolute confidence, because we are experiencing it with the similar institution in Japan, namely the International House of Japan, where H.E. Prime Minister Nehru gave his most impressive address three years ago. We believe the relationship between these sister Institutions will be most cordial and profitable in the years to come."

CIVIC RECEPTION

A civic reception was accorded to Their Imperial Highnesses by the Delhi Corporation at Red Fort on November 30. Replying to the address, the Crown Prince said:

"Though geographically separated by a great distance and though our countries have evolved different patterns of culture and history in accordance with their natural environments and social systems, both India and Japan have been engaged in mutual exchange of religion, philosophy and fine arts from ancient times. Through this close contact, Indian culture has deeply influenced Japanese culture and thought.

"The goodwill, which the Japanese people have, for the Indian people, is based on this historical fact and has in turn provided the necessary psychological foundation for co-operation in the new age between the peoples of the two countries.

"Organised under the leadership

of great men, the Indian people are making rapid progress on modern lines and developing the physical resources of India. This is not an accident, but as I have myself seen, the culmination of the thousands of years of the historical and cultural tradition of India. The whole Japanese people believe that India will achieve massive success in the near future and they hope that this country would strive for the peace and progress of Asia and thus contribute to world peace."

INDO-JAPANESE RELATIONS

On December 1, the Crown Prince and Princess of Japan visited the India-Japan Friendship Association in New Delhi. Addressing the Association, the Crown Prince said: "The cultural relations between India and Japan, which can be traced back to many centuries ago, are now being enlivened and enlarged as to include much wider field of activities. The economic co-operation is one of the most prominent. In the field of politics both countries have their own problems and their own ways of solving them, but in the main they are following the same ideals of international peace, justice and prosperity. This co-operation of our two countries will become strengthened year after year."

After visiting Agra and Fatehpur Sikri on December 3 and 4, Their Imperial Highness left for Gaya on December 5. Visiting Patna on their way to Nepal, they would reach Kathmandu on December 6. The royal visitors had come to India on November 12, when they arrived at Calcutta.

PRESS RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

A meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Information Consultative Committee was held in Rawalpindi on November 26 and 27. The Indian delegation for the meeting was led by Dr. B.V. Keshkar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting. The following joint Press Communique was issued in New Delhi at

the conclusion of the meeting:

The Indo-Pakistan Information Consultative Committee, which reviewed trends in the Press, radio, films and publications in India and Pakistan, appreciated the work being done in the two countries to implement the Indo-Pakistan agreements.

2. In the inaugural session on November 26, the leader of the Pakistan delegation, while welcoming the leader and members of the Indian delegation, acknowledged the significant improvement that had taken place in the relationship between the two countries. He said that the climate of friendship could be further improved if, in addition to observing voluntarily the Joint Press Code, some thought was given to the positive aspects of the problems, and the information media in both India and Pakistan stressed on the work being done in both countries in the field of economic and social development.

3. The leader of Pakistan delegation emphasised the need for broad agreement on principles and a better approach to the problems. He pointed out that while there might be infringements here and there of an all-embracing Code in both the countries, the committee should concern itself more with flagrant violations that cause a sense of anger and animosity between the two peoples. He said that, in order to create a more harmonious understanding, personal attacks on international leaders should be avoided.

4. The leader of the Indian delegation reciprocated the sentiments of friendship and goodwill expressed by the leader of the Pakistan delegation, and said that the initiative taken by the President of Pakistan and the recent visit of the Indian Prime Minister to Pakistan, as also instances of greater co-operation in economic and trade relations had done a lot to lessen the tension between the two countries. There was now greater understanding of each other's viewpoint. He agreed with the leader of Pakistan delegation that, in addition to the observance of the Joint Press Code, the Press in both the countries should strive to see the positive side of the work that is being done in India and Pakistan. As regards other media of information, the two Governments could take steps and evolve a procedure much more easily because they were under their control. He emphasised that these media could give the lead by avoiding attacks on the personalities of the leaders of both the countries.

5. In his view, there was an all-round improvement, but there

was room for further improvement.

6. Both delegations agreed that the violation of the Joint Press Code should be looked at from the viewpoint of getting the broad picture in order to assess the progress made towards more friendly atmosphere and understanding.

7. In the field of the Press, the Committee reviewed the working of the Joint Press Code since its adoption last April and noted the steps taken to implement it. While the Committee was satisfied that the Press as a whole had tried its best to contribute towards friendly feelings between the two countries, it noted with regret that some newspapers in both the countries had not acted in consonance with the Joint Press Code.

8. It felt that the time had come when positive steps should be taken to promote a more cordial atmosphere by reporting on and reviewing constructive and developmental activities in both countries.

9. The Committee felt that efforts of the two Governments to promote friendly relations should be supplemented by the Press in both the countries collaborating to ensure implementation of the Joint Press Code.

10. The Committee held that better understanding between the two countries would be promoted by broadening the basis of facilities given to journalists for reporting on activities in each country. It held the present procedure to be unduly restrictive.

11. The Committee recommended for increased facilities for circulation of newspapers published in each country to promote better appreciation of the achievements of the two people.

12. The Committee was informed by the Pakistan representatives that the question of the removal of ban on the entry of three Indian newspapers into East Pakistan was under active consideration.

13. On broadcasting, films and publications, the Committee noted the distinct improvement in the tone and complexion of broadcasts of the two organisations and agreed that efforts to maintain this trend and to make further improvements should be continued.

14. In this connection, the Committee discussed some specific broadcasts where selection of

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—BUSINESS MANAGER

material and its editing and treatment called for further improvement. They exchanged views with regard to the ways and means of effecting this improvement.

15. The Committee also discussed and favoured the exchange of visits by personnel of the two broadcasting organisations and wherever possible the joint production of programmes.

16. The Committee further recommended that there should be exchange of radio programmes, documentary films and publications reflecting economic, social and cultural progress of the two countries.

MOVABLE PROPERTY AGREEMENT

A press communique issued by the Ministry of Rehabilitation says that the fifth meeting of the Implementation Committee, set up under the Indo-Pakistan Movable Property Agreement, was held in Delhi on November 29 and 30 in an atmosphere of cordiality.

The meeting reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the Agreement after the last meeting held at New Delhi in April 1958. It noted that while satisfactory progress had been made in regard to the implementation of certain items, it was not so in regard to other items. Both the delegations agreed that the

settlement of these outstanding matters should be expedited and every endeavour made to restore the movable assets of displaced persons in either country, as they represented their hard-earned savings.

Consideration of certain items, such as transfer of lockers and safe deposits, exchange of bank accounts in *en bloc* areas in the two countries, status of displaced banks and verification of assets of Joint Stock Companies was postponed till the next meeting of the Committee, as both the delegations felt that further consultations with their respective Governments were necessary in regard to these items.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Rawalpindi on January 17 and 18, 1961. It was also agreed that a meeting of the Implementation Committee under the Banking Agreement would be held on the same dates.

ANTI-INDIAN ACTIVITIES

In reply to a question on November 21, Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, informed the Lok Sabha that eleven Chinese nationals were ordered to leave India in the last three months because they were suspected to have indulged in anti-Indian activities.

POWERS OF PRESIDENT

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, laid the foundation stone of the building of the Indian Law Institute in New Delhi on November 28. Speaking on the occasion, the President said: "Our Constitution is very largely founded on the British Constitution. There are certain differences which are obvious. It is generally believed that like the Sovereign of Great Britain the President of India is also a constitutional head and has to act according to advice of his Council of Ministers. The question which I should like to be studied and investigated is the extent to which and the matters in respect of which, if any, the powers and functions of the President differ from those of the Sovereign of Great Britain. Further, it may also be considered

the procedure, by which the President is elected and is liable to be removed or impeached, introduces any difference, constitutionally speaking, between the President and the British Monarch. Generally, what are the points in respect of which the powers and functions of the two are the same and what are the points, if any, and the extent to which they differ?"

Dr. Rajendra Prasad further observed: "In this connection a wider question of much import is how far we are entitled to invoke and incorporate into our written Constitution by interpretation the conventions of the British Constitution which is an unwritten constitution. All this will necessarily involve a consideration of the question how far the words and expressions used in our Constitution shall be treated as words and expressions of art which have a meaning attached to them which is fixed and which is not necessarily the literal meaning of those expressions. This is necessary in view of the fact that our conditions and problems are not on par with the British and it may not be desirable to treat ourselves as strictly bound by the interpretations which have been given from time to time to expressions in England."

JURY SYSTEM

An announcement of November 30 says that the Central Government have left to the State Governments whether to introduce or abolish the jury system in the light of circumstances obtaining in each area. The Law Commission, in one of its recommendations, had suggested legislation for abolition of the jury system on an all-India basis.

The existing provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, it is felt, are adequate in this respect, as they empower the State Governments to introduce or abolish the jury system by a notification.

The system of trial by jury does not exist in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Orissa, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. As regards the remaining States, the system extends to a limited number of areas and to the trial of a limited number of offences.

HINDU MARRIAGE ACT

An announcement of November 16 says that all Union Territories and the States like Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal have framed rules under the Hindu Marriage Act.

The rules, in general, provide for registration of Hindu marriages by the Registrar appointed under the Act, the manner of making application for registration, the form of such application, the procedure for such registration, the fee to be charged for registration, the manner of preserving the records, etc.

VILLAGE MAPS IN CENSUS

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 29, a new map of every Indian village with permanent features like tanks, schools and the *panchayatghar*, has been prepared as a result of the house-numbering operation that the State Census Offices have completed throughout the country.

Thus the Government have about six lakh maps of villages. The city blocks have also been cartographed and their number comes to 140,000.

While preparing lists of houses and households, the census staff has collected some other valuable information which is now being compiled, for instance, the total number of houses in the country and data on the building materials. Similarly, all industrial establishments in the country will be categorised under 300 specified items of production. The number of workers, rural and urban, will also be known.

As many as 10 lakh enumerators, including supervisors, have already been recruited and assigned their beats. For the first time, they will be given an honorarium, roughly 3 nP. per person counted.

The count will be conducted from February 10 to 28.

CENSUS IN BARAMULA AND LADAKH

A New Delhi announcement of November 18 says that the census of population in the snow-bound

areas of Baramula and Ladakh districts in the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been completed.

Provisional figures of the count show that there are as many as 29,018 persons in the Baramula district,—15,783 males and 13,235 females. Only 5.9 per cent of the population is literate and it includes 46 females.

The population of the Ladakh district is 86,892, including 43,670 males and 43,222 females. The literacy is very limited and it embraces 6,189 males and 371 females.

CENSUS IN MANDI

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 23, the provisional district-wise figures available of the population Count in the snowbound areas of Mandi and Kinnaur Districts of Himachal Pradesh, are: Mandi—64,337 persons (males 32,680 and females 31,657), and Kinnaur—40,640 persons (males 20,489 and females 20,151).

While in Mandi district there are 551 literate females in the total population of 64,337, in the Kinnaur district their number is 774 out of 40,640.

The district of Mandi includes Pargna Chohar of Tehsil Joginder-nagar, Pargna Uttarsal, Pargna Badar and Pargna Snor of Tehsil Mandi Sadar, and Pargna Main-dangarh, Pargna Dhangyara and Pargna Seraj of Tehsil Chachiot, while the district of Kinnaur, includes Sub-divisions of Nichar, Kalpa and Pooh.

PASSPORT APPLICATIONS

A series of decisions were arrived at the Second Conference of Regional Passport Officers, held at New Delhi from September 6 to 8, to further simplify procedures in Regional Passport Offices with a view to expediting disposal of passport applications at different levels. The present system regarding the submission of a passport application has been revised and, in future, an applicant for passport facilities is required to submit:

- i) The original of passport application form (PCO—I with 2 copies of his photograph (Passport size taken

full face), duly attested, and relevant documents direct to the District Magistrate/Commissioner of Police, etc., concerned;

- ii) A special slip which will be attached to the passport application form (PCO—I) giving his particulars to the District Magistrate/Commissioner of Police, etc.;

- iii) The duplicate copy together with 2 additional copies of photograph, duly attested, and CERTIFIED duplicate copies of relevant documents direct to the Regional Passport Officer concerned.

Persons residing in Delhi, New Delhi and Calcutta can submit both copies of their passport application as well as the special slip giving their particulars direct to the Regional Passport Officer at Delhi and Calcutta, as the case may be.

FORGED PASSPORTS

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 29, Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, said that as many as 121 foreigners were apprehended in India for using forged passports in nine months, from January to September 1960. The information was still awaited from the States of Assam, Gujarat, Madras, Rajasthan and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Shri Pant also informed that the Foreigners (Amendment) Order, 1960, and the Indian Passport (Amendment) Rules, 1960, had been introduced to regulate the visit of Pakistan nationals coming to India to places specified in their visas and to control the entry into India of persons on forged passports or visas. The system was working satisfactorily.

PERSONS UNDER PREVENTIVE DETENTION

At the end of September last, 106 persons were under detention in various States under the Preventive Detention Act, 1950, according to a statement laid on the Table of Lok Sabha by Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, on November 21.

Statewise persons detained were: West Bengal—57; Maharashtra—16; Uttar Pradesh—13; Manipur—11; Assam—5; Punjab—2, and one each in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat.

S.P.E. CONFERENCE

Shri G.B. Pant, Union Minister for Home Affairs, inaugurated at New Delhi on November 22 the Special Police Establishment Conference which the State anti-corruption officers attended for the first time. He urged for a close co-operation between the States and the Centre to eradicate corruption in the country.

Referring to the Special Police Establishment, Shri Pant said that it had been making steady progress. Of the cases taken by it, those which had gone to courts, nearly 80 per cent resulted in conviction. This was a very high percentage, he added, because so far as general crime was concerned, it seldom exceeded 30 per cent.

POLICE MEDALS FOR S.P.E. OFFICERS

Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, distributed in New Delhi on November 21, medals for meritorious service to seven Police Officers of the Special Police Establishment.

Shri P. Kandaswamy, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, received the award of the President's Police and Fire Services Medal for displaying a steadfast, resolute and unrelenting attitude in the fight against corruption.

The Police Medals have gone to the following six officers; Shri Lakshman Swaroop Darbari, Superintendent of Police, New Delhi; Shri Jethanand, Inspector of Police, New Delhi; Shri Ramchandra Balwant Paithankar, Inspector of Police, Bombay; Shri Chandra Shekhar Tiwari, Superintendent of Police, Jabalpur; Shri Abdul Rashid Khan, Superintendent of Police, Jaipur; and Shri Pattamadi Subbiah Sankaranarayanan, Inspector of Police, Madras.

GALLANTRY AWARDS

Two officers, one of Madras Fire Service and the other of U.P. Police, have been decorated by the

President for gallantry, according to the Gazette of India published on November 19.

The Police and Fire Services Medal has gone to late Shri Chinadurai Rangaraj, Sub-Officer, Madras Fire Service, South Arcot District, Madras State, and the Police Medal to Shri Badri Nath Khare, Circle Inspector (Officiating), Azamgarh District, Uttar Pradesh.

Sub-Officer Shri Chinnadurai Rangaraj lost his life when he went up to a burning building with a fire rake to pull down a thatched roof so as to prevent the fire from spreading at Cuddalore in May this year.

Circle Inspector Khare with his party gave a brave fight with a gang of dacoits near Abhaipur, killing the dacoit leader, Rangai Kewal, and overpowering two of his associates.

AGE LIMIT CONCESSION

According to a New Delhi announcement dated November 22, the departmental candidates who are given age concession to sit in the examination for service under the Central Government will not be eligible for appointment if, after submitting applications, they resign from service either before or after taking the examinations.

A provision to this effect has been made in the rules for I.A.S., etc., examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission. The Ministry of Home Affairs has communicated to the other Central Ministries that such a rule be made for examinations for appointment to all services under the Government of India.

CENTRAL GOVT. EMPLOYEES' STRIKE CASES

An announcement of November 17 says that the Central Government have relaxed the rules to take a lenient view of the unauthorised absence of the employees who went on strike recently.

The decision communicated by the Home Ministry to the Central Ministries is that the absence be not considered an interruption in service entailing forfeiture of past service under the Civil Service

Regulations.

All those employees who merely absented themselves from duty and were not suspended or awarded any penalty under the disciplinary rules will not forfeit the benefit of past service for purposes of pay, pension, leave, increment, etc. Their unauthorised absence will be counted as if it were "leave with allowances". Also, the pay last drawn is to be allowed to those who re-joined duty except in the case of employees who resigned or were removed or dismissed but subsequently re-employed, but this concession is only for purposes of pension and increment.

Those employees who were awarded penalty but not suspended will also not forfeit the benefit of their past service for purposes of pay or leave. But the period of 'unauthorised absence' will not be counted towards pension and increment.

The date of superannuation which is dependent on the attainment of a certain age will not be affected for

both the categories of employees.

EMPLOYEES UNDER SUSPENSION

The period of unauthorised absence will, in most cases, fall between July 12 and July 16, 1960, both days inclusive. In the departments which observed Sunday, July 17, as a holiday, the employees who resumed duty on July 18 are to be deemed to have absented themselves without authority up to only July 16.

The cases of those employees who were placed under suspension will be regulated under the normal rules, that is, the rules regulating the treatment of employees who are suspended.

The Home Ministry, which has listed these instructions in a note, has emphasised that the unauthorised period of absence should not be regularised by grant of any leave. No pay and allowances are to be paid for this period. Nor is it to be counted as duty or service for the purpose of earning leave.

Planning & Finance

REPAYMENT OF WEST GERMAN LOAN

Replying to a question on the repayment of the loan given by the West German Government to India, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, said in the Lok Sabha on November 21 that, as part of their assistance for India's development programme, the West German Government had agreed to an arrangement under which a portion of the loan falling due for repayment up to December 31, 1961, on account of the Rourkela Steel Plant, would be extended for a further period. Under this arrangement, out of a sum of Rs. 16.73 crores due for repayment by March 31, 1961, a sum of Rs. 5.58 crores would be repaid on the due date. The repayment of a further sum of Rs. 5.58 crores would be extended by 4 years with an option for a further extension of 4 years, i.e. a total deferment of 8 years. The balance i.e. Rs. 5.57 crores

would also be deferred initially for a period of 4 years with an option of an extension for a further period of 8 years, thus allowing a total extension of 12 years. Similarly, out of a sum of Rs. 22.85 crores due for repayment during April-December 1961, a sum of Rs. 2.29 crores would be repaid on the due date. The period of repayment for half of the balance, viz. Rs. 10.28 crores, was expected to be extended by 8 years and for the other half by 12 years, Shri Desai added.

FOREIGN DEBT

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 21, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, said that the total outstanding debt of the Government

of India as on October 1, 1960, to foreign countries, including the debt due to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development was approximately Rs. 670.80 crores. This was exclusive of the amount of Rs. 93.18 crores representing foreign debt on account of public sector, non-Government organisations and private sector agencies, as well as Rs. 60.71 crores due to the International Monetary Fund for the repurchase of rupees. It was also exclusive of the deferred payment liabilities in the public and private sectors, he added.

Shri Desai said that in respect of the said amount of Rs. 670.80 crores, the repayment liability for the years 1961-62 to 1970-71 was estimated to be of the following order:—1961-62—Rs. 27.14 crores; 1962-63—Rs. 36.89 crores; 1963-64—Rs. 30 crores; 1964-65—Rs. 30.90 crores; 1965-66—Rs. 34.11 crores; 1966-67—Rs. 39.00 crores; 1967-68—Rs. 39.10 crores; 1968-69—Rs. 37.73 crores; 1969-70—Rs. 39.57 crores; 1970-71—Rs. 31.89 crores; and the total—Rs. 366.39 crores.

UTILISATION OF JAPANESE CREDIT

In a written reply to a question on November 21, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, informed the Lok Sabha that the entire credit of 18,000 million yen (Rs. 23.81 crores) received from Japan in 1958 had been firmly allocated to various development projects in the public and private sectors. The total value of loan agreements already signed and loan applications now pending with the Export Import Bank of Japan was Rs. 16.5 crores. The balance of Rs. 7.31 crores was also fully covered by approvals already given for purchase of equipment required for power projects, ports, broadcasting, industrial projects, etc.

The Finance Minister said that initially there was some delay in utilising the credit on account of certain procedural difficulties which were subsequently overcome. It was expected that loan applications for the full amount of the credit would be sent to the Japanese authorities in the very near future.

New D.L.F. Loans

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai said in the Lok Sabha, during question hour on November 29 that subsequent to the information given in reply to a question in the House on August 20, 1960, the United States Development Loan Fund had announced their intention to grant the following Loans:—

(1) To Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation: 5 million dollars; (2) To Trombay Fertilizers: 30 million dollars; (3) To private sector capital equipment: 25 million dollars; (4) To importation of steel for industrial enterprises: 25 million dollars.

Shri Desai said that the loan agreements had not yet been signed.

U.S. LOAN FOR INDIAN FIRMS

In a statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 16, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shri B.R. Bhagat, informed the House that from April 1, 1960, loans were given by U.S. Government agencies to the following three private firms in India: (1) Ahmedabad Electricity Co., Ltd., Bombay; (2) Ex-Cell-O. India Ltd., Bombay; and (3) Premier Tyres Ltd., Bombay. The amount and currency of loans given to these firms was 3.9 million, Rs. 20 lakhs and Rs. 30 lakhs respectively.

INDIA-PAKISTAN FINANCIAL TALKS

The following Press Communique was issued on November 25 at the end of the third round of talks between the Indian Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, and the Pakistan Finance Minister, Mr. M. Shoaib in New Delhi.

"The Finance Ministers of India and Pakistan met at New Delhi in a number of sessions from the 23rd to the 25th November 1960. They held very cordial discussions on the financial matters outstanding between the two countries and have made good progress towards their settlement. Though a final agreement could not be reached, they have

a full understanding of each other's point of view. They hope to meet again and will endeavour to give an agreed answer to the outstanding problems."

L.I.C. BUSINESS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

In a written reply to a question on November 21, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, informed the Lok Sabha that the Life Insurance Corporation was now transacting business in the following foreign countries: Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika Territory, Zanzibar, Federation of Malaya, Colony of Singapore, Mauritius, Aden, Hongkong and Fiji.

He said that the total amount of foreign business to the credit of the L.I.C. was Rs. 28.60 crores up to October 15 last from these countries.

BUSINESS IN U.K.

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 24, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, said that the scheme to start Life Insurance Corporation business in the United Kingdom has been finalised. The main features of the scheme to write business in the U.K. were as follows:

(1) Both Sterling and Indian rupee policies were to be issued in the United Kingdom to suit the needs of Indian nationals residing in the United Kingdom as well as of the other Commonwealth citizens.

(2) Policies under most of the existing schemes in India would be offered in U.K. However, (a) joint life assurance and (b) two-year Temporary Insurance would not be offered.

(3) It had been decided to offer slightly reduced rates of premium for people insuring in the U.K. These reduced rates were on par with what the Corporation offered in British East Africa.

DEPOSITS IN FOREIGN BANKS

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, informed the Lok Sabha during question hour on November 21 that manipulation of

invoices of imports in order to deposit surplus amounts in foreign banks was done by over invoicing imports usually in collusion with the foreign suppliers, to enable transfer abroad of a larger amount of foreign exchange than what the actual value of the goods imported would warrant. He said that 21 such cases had come to the notice of the Government but only in six cases there was evidence to establish that the manipulation invoices was done in order to deposit surplus amounts in foreign banks.

MORATORIUM TO BANK OF NAGPUR

In a Press Note issued on November 27, the Ministry of Finance has announced that the Central Government, on the recommendation of the Reserve Bank, has granted to the Bank of Nagpur Ltd., Nagpur, a moratorium from November 27, 1960 to January 8, 1961, both days inclusive under the provisions of section 45 of the Banking Companies Act, as recently amended.

The question of reconstructing the Bank of Nagpur Ltd. and amalgamating it with the Bank of Maharashtra Ltd. is under the active consideration of the Reserve Bank of India and the moratorium has been declared in the general interests of the depositors of the bank and with a view to facilitating the contemplated reconstruction and amalgamation. It is expected that if the proposed amalgamation goes through, the depositors of the Bank of Nagpur Ltd. will receive almost immediately credit for the bulk of the deposits against the readily realisable assets; they will receive subsequently such additional sums as may be available from further realisations that may be made by the Bank of Maharashtra Ltd.

BANK OF INDORE

In a Press Note issued on November 26, the Ministry of Finance says that the shareholders of the Bank of Indore Limited, who are entitled to the compensation in terms of the provisions contained in the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, are hereby in-

formed that notification has been issued by the Central Government under Section 13 (3) of that Act, fixing December 28, 1960 as the date by which requests, if any, to have the amount of compensation referred to a Tribunal must reach the Central Government.

The requests, if any, should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, State Banks Section, New Delhi, in the form which has already been prescribed for this purpose, vide Rule 4 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) (Compensation) Rules, 1959. The copies of this form may, if necessary, be obtained from the head office of the State Bank of Indore.

BANKS IN LIQUIDATION

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 29, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, gave a list of 51 banks which had gone into liquidation since January 1, 1957. He said that the total paid up capital of these banks as on the date of liquidation amounted to Rs. 109.76 lakhs.

Shri Desai said that of the 51 banks, the total deposits of 33 banks in respect of which returns had been received by the Reserve Bank, amounted to Rs. 379.21 lakhs as on the dates of liquidation. As most of these banks were in the process of being wound up and payments were being or would be made to depositors from time to time as and when assets were realised, it was not possible to evaluate the extent of financial loss sustained by the depositors till these banks had been finally dissolved.

COMPENSATION TO SHAREHOLDERS

A Press Note issued on November 23 by the Ministry of Finance informs the shareholders of the Bank of Bikaner and the Bank of Jaipur Ltd., who are entitled to compensation in terms of the provisions contained in the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, that notifications have been

issued by the Central Government under Section 13 (3) of that Act, fixing in the case of both the banks the 26th December, 1960 as the date by which requests, if any, to have the amount of compensation referred to a Tribunal must reach the Central Government.

The requests, if any, should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, State Banks Section, New Delhi, in the form which has already been prescribed for this purpose, vide Rule 4 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) (Compensation) Rules, 1959. The copies of this form may, if necessary, be obtained from the head offices of the State Banks concerned.

INCOME TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

According to a Press Note issued on November 17 by the Ministry of Finance, the Government of India have made an important change in the existing administrative procedure regarding the issue of Exemption and Tax Clearance Certificates under section 46A of the Income-tax Act to Indian Nationals proceeding abroad.

Under section 46A, persons of Indian domicile who, in the opinion of the Income-tax authority, are not likely to return to India have to obtain tax clearance certificates before their departure. As a result of the experience of the past several years, Government have now decided to abolish the requirement that exemption certificates should be produced by every Indian national proceeding abroad. It is only in a case when the income-tax authority concerned declares that a particular person is not likely to return to India that a clearance certificate will be required from him. In such a case the person concerned will be intimated of this requirement by the income-tax authority and his name will also be communicated to the Collectors of Customs at the various sea/air ports and through them to the carriers. Except in such an exceptional case it will not be necessary for an Indian National proceeding abroad to obtain a certificate

under section 46A of the Income-tax Act.

The new procedure will come into effect from December 1, 1960.

CHANDA COMMITTEE MEETS

The Central Excise Reorganisation Committee, presided over by Shri A.K. Chanda, until recently Comptroller and Auditor General of India, held its first meeting in New Delhi on November 28.

Inaugurating the meeting, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, said that in the present economic conditions in India, additional taxation of commodities for expanding revenues was inevitable until direct taxes came into their own as the main source of revenue with the growth of industries and rise in living standards.

The revenue from central excise duties has steadily gone up from about Rs. 3 crores in 1921 to Rs. 70 crores in 1950-51 and Rs. 148 crores in 1955-56. In the current financial year, it is estimated at Rs. 380 crores, constituting over 45% of the total central tax revenues.

In the last few years, excise duty has been introduced on several items. As against only 5 excisable articles up to 1940, excise duties are now levied on the products of 39 different industries.

The total cost of collection has steadily come down from 5.1 per cent cost of the revenue in 1950-51 to 1.7 per cent in 1958-59.

AID TO JAMMU AND KASHMIR

In a written reply to a question on November 16, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai informed the Lok Sabha that a sum of Rs. 450 lakhs, representing three-fourth of the Central assistance allotted to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for their Plan schemes during 1959-60, was given to them as ways and means advance in nine equal monthly instalments beginning from May 1959. Of this, a sum of Rs. 314.39 lakhs was subsequently converted into loans and Rs. 110.89 lakhs into grants for specific Plan schemes according to the patterns of Central

assistance applicable to them.

Shri Desai added that the balance of Rs. 24.72 lakhs left uncleared out of the ways and means advance had been recovered from the State Government by short payment of the first monthly instalment of ways and means advance sanctioned during 1960-61.

While no interest was charged on the ways and means advance as such, the portion of such advance converted into loans carried interest from October 1, 1959, the Minister added.

PER CAPITA INCOME

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 30, Shri Sadat Ali Khan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, said that, according to 'quick' estimates of National Income at 1948-49 prices, prepared by the

Central Statistical Organisation, the *per capita* income of India has declined from Rs. 293.6 in 1958-59 to Rs. 291.3 in 1959-60. National Income in 1959-60 was 0.5% more than that in 1958-59, but since the population increased at a higher rate, there was fall in the *per capita* income.

MILLIONAIRES IN INDIA

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure, Dr. B. Gopala Reddi, informed the Lok Sabha during question hour on November 29 that the number of non-company wealth-tax assesses as on 31.3.60 with net wealth of over a crore of rupees was 28. The number as on 31.3.59 was the same as on 31.3.59.

Asked how many millionaires still existed among feudal aristocrats, Dr. Reddi gave the figure as 16.



WIDE SCOPE FOR SETTING UP ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

According to a survey by the Development Wing in the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, says an announcement of November 20, there is considerable scope for setting up new units to fill the gap in domestic production capacity of several engineering industries like machine tools, industrial machinery, automobile and ancillary industries, instruments industry and electrical equipment.

For machine tools, the country's requirements by the end of the Third Plan would be about Rs. 50 crores annually. As against this, the present production amounts only to about Rs. 6 crores annually. An annual production of at least Rs. 30 crores has been envisaged for the Third Plan period and it is clear that a major effort has to be made to reach this target.

Indicating the specific possibilities in this field, the survey report

says that surface grinders, forging hammers, cylindrical grinders, bench type milling machines, gear cutting machinery, tapping and threading machines, wire drawing machines, cutting tools like thread chasers, milling cutters, various types of gauges and other precision equipment are some of the items which need to be undertaken for production.

While the country has made very satisfactory progress in the field of sugar machinery, domestic production is lagging behind in some other fields, e.g. paper making machinery, continuous type road making plant, plants for the manufacture of sulphuric acid, caustic soda, soda ash and other chemicals, plant for the manufacture of fertilisers, boiler mountings, rotary printing presses, platen presses, industrial type flour mill machinery, stockers for boilers, etc.

Another field, where new ground has to be covered, is in respect of production of ropeways, which are very useful for transporting raw materials from inaccessible places. Once production of ropeways is developed in the country, the interiors in Himachal Pradesh, Assam and U.P. and other far off areas could be developed rapidly with advantage.

In the field of automobile industry, there is considerable scope for the manufacture of a large number of ancillary items. As against the current year's estimated production of about 50,000 vehicles, the Third Plan target envisaged is much higher—100,000 vehicles. Among the ancillary items, which need to be manufactured indigenously, are magnetoes, distributors, coil springs, fuel injection equipment, forgings, sealed beam units, poppet valves, etc.

While production of diesel engines has been on the rise, the demand is nevertheless out-stripping the supply and there is need for developing further industrial capacity for 5 to 200 HP high speed diesel engines. Besides, the production of mobile cranes, petrol and kerosene engines, fork lifts trucks has also to be taken up.

INSTRUMENTS

It has been estimated that during the Third Plan period we would be requiring at least Rs. 15 crores worth of instruments of different types annually. Domestic production at present is not significant. Items like binocular microscopes, polarising microscopes, water current meters, flow meters, gas meters, tachometers, various types of thermometers, meggers, medical and pathological microscopes, etc., are yet to be developed and produced in the country.

Ancillary electrical equipment on a large scale would be required by the three Heavy Electrical Plants which would be in production by the middle of the Third Plan period. In order to meet the requirements of these major units, industrial capacity has to be developed in such items as gas detection relays, radiators, load tap changing gears, starters and many other ancillary items. There is also a gap in the production of special types of motors, variable

speed motors, D.C. motors, etc. No production of slip-ring assemblies, commutators for D.C. motors, has been taken up by indigenous manufacturers as yet.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

While the radio industry has increased its production, the output of components in this industry has not kept pace with this rise and there is scope for development in respect of potentiometers, resistors, band

change switches, transformers, trimmers, etc.

There is also a vast field to be covered in respect of railway signalling equipment. Domestic production in this line is very limited.

The shortage of cables, particularly paper insulated cables, of which huge quantities are required by various project authorities, indicates the expansion possibilities in this field. These are at present being imported on a large scale.

DEVELOPMENT OF COAL INDUSTRY

A meeting of the Coal Council of India was held in New Delhi on November 26. The meeting was addressed by Sardar Swaran Singh, Union Minister for Steel, Mines and Fuel.

The Coal Council has asked the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research to appoint a committee to go into the question of feasibility of underground gasification of coal for generation of power and to locate suitable areas where this could be tried out on a commercial scale. This committee should also be asked to indicate the economics of the proposal.

It was assessed that there would be at least 6 to 7 million tons of middlings from the washeries of coking coal. Some middlings would also be forthcoming from the non-coking coal washeries to be set up during the Third Plan period. The utilisation of these middlings for generation of power posed a problem, the solution of which would make coal washing comparatively economical.

PRODUCTION IN THIRD PLAN

The Council decided to set up a committee to explore the possibility of the middlings and link it up with power production in and around the vicinity where washeries were to be located. The committee, which was asked to submit its report within a month, would also go into the question of expediting the setting up of washeries.

The Council agreed that the industrial development of the country called for a production of 97 million tons of coal during the Third Plan period. It also approved

the allocation of the increased production of 37 million tons over the Second Plan target between the public and the private sectors as 20 and 17 million tons respectively.

Government Policy on Coal

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 17, the Government of India's policy in regard to coal production was clarified by Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for Steel, Mines and Fuel.

Sardar Swaran Singh said, "The basic policy in regard to coal production, which was adopted during the Second Plan and had the approval of the Parliament, was to assess the total requirement of coal in our national economy and then to apportion responsibility between the private and public sectors to achieve this production according to their capacity. The policy still remains the same."

"Our main objective being to produce all the coal that is needed, the allocation of the respective shares of the private and public sectors cannot be on the basis of a pre-determined target for each. The proper course is to make an assessment of the capacity of coal and then to work out what contribution it should be called upon to make in order to achieve the total production needed. This has been our approach in deciding the part that each of these sectors has to play in the Third Plan."

The Minister disclosed that, according to the final estimate of a working group the private sector

was capable of producing about 4.87 million tons of coking coal and about 11 million tons of non-coking coal, thus making a total of 16 million tons approximately. Similarly the capacity of the public sector comprising the National Coal Development Corporation and the Singareni Collieries had been estimated at 19 million tons. The intention, however, was not to treat these allocations as rigid.

The above policy was fully in accord with the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. That resolution stipulated that all new units in the coal industry would be set up by the State. But this did not preclude the expansion of the existing privately owned units or the possibility of the State securing the co-operation of private enterprise in the establishment of new units when the national interests so required. A realistic assessment having been made of the optimum production that could come from the existing mines and areas immediately contiguous to these mines in the private sector, the intention of the Government to give special permission to individual units to work new or non-contiguous areas where the raising of coal from such areas had to be ensured to make up the total production required.

Another important aspect of the coal policy pertained to coal prices. In this regard, Government had adhered to a policy of holding the price line. Some time ago Government had constituted a Coal Price Revision Committee which went into the entire price structure of coal and, besides recommending an economic price for coal, made certain other recommendations, the object of which was to create the right conditions for the expansion of coal production and assurance of supplies to consumers. These recommendations were accepted by Government and were being implemented, the Minister said.

PLYWOOD INDUSTRY

In a Press Note of November 30, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has announced that the Government of India have accepted the Tariff Commission's recommendation that protection to the industry

manufacturing plywood, including plywood panels for tea-chests and battens for tea-chests, should not be continued beyond December 31, 1960. If, however, import control is substantially relaxed in future and imports of foreign plywood constitute a threat to the industry, domestic producers may apply for reconsideration of their case.

The Government's Resolution on the Commission's report states that Government have also taken note of an ancillary recommendation made by the Commission for assistance to the industry for implementation as far as possible.

SHEET GLASS INDUSTRY

A Press Note issued on November 23 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry says that the Government of India have accepted the Tariff Commission's recommendation that protection granted to the sheet glass industry should be continued at the existing level of duty of 70 per cent *ad valorem* for a further period of two years, i.e., up to December 31, 1962.

The Government have taken note of certain ancillary recommendations made by the Commission for assistance to the industry, for examination and implementation as far as possible.

PRODUCTION OF TYRES

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 30, Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister of Industry, announced that arrangements had been made to import about 1.2 lakh tyres through the State Trading Corporation. The Minister added that out of this, orders for 50,000 tyres had already been placed.

The Minister added that a number of steps had been taken to increase the production of tyres. Domestic production had increased from 6.4 lakh tyres in 1956 to 11.38 lakh tyres in 1959 and about 13.5 to 14 lakhs in 1960. Also the licensed capacity had been added by expansion of existing units and new units from 10.4 lakhs a year to 29.4 lakhs a year. Production would increase by 1.5, 2.5 and 3 lakh tyres in 1961, 1962 and 1963

respectively. Additional capacity of 14.4 lakh tyres was under consideration.

MOTOR CYCLES AND SCOOTERS

The production of motor cycles and scooters during this year up to September had been 12,233 as against the Second Plan target of 11,000 numbers annually, said Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister for Industry, in the Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question on November 25. Production in the country had commenced in 1955 and the 1956 level of production had amounted to 1,022 numbers for motor cycles and 4,735 for scooters.

Shri Shah said that by the end of the Second Plan period, the production of motor cycles and scooters would rise to 24,000 annually. No separate financial allocation had been made to the two industries. The fixed investment in these industries roughly amounted to Rs. 2.34 crores.

HEAVY MACHINE TOOL PLANT

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, stated in the Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question on November 25 that foreign exchange of the order of about Rs. 5 to 6 crores would be saved annually as a result of the establishment of the proposed Heavy Machine Tool Plant in collaboration with Czechoslovakia.

Shri Shah said that negotiations with Czechoslovakia were in progress to settle the terms under which the project report in respect of the plant would be entrusted to them. The following types of machines were proposed for production in this project: central lathes, planers, horizontal borers, vertical boring and turning mills, plano-milling machines, grinding machines, radial drilling machines, etc.

INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY

Details of the progress made in the indigenous manufacture of industrial machinery were given in Lok Sabha on November 22 by the

Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, in reply to a question.

Shri Shah said that, as against a target of Rs. 2.5 crores for the Second Plan in respect of sugar machinery, the 1960 level of production was estimated at about Rs. 3 to 4 crores.

For cement machinery he said, a target of Rs. 2 crores had been fixed. There were at present six firms registered or licensed under the Industries Act for the manufacture of cement machinery and parts. Of these, three firms were licensed for the production of complete cement plants with a total turnover of Rs. 4 crores annually. It was expected that with these three units going into full production by the end of 1962, much of the country's demand for cement machinery would be met. The estimated production for 1960-61 was Rs. 65 lakhs.

Referring to agricultural machinery, Shri Shah said that the value of indigenous production had increased from Rs. 35 lakhs in 1956-57 to Rs. 83 lakhs in 1958-59. No targets had been indicated for this industry under the Second Plan.

For printing machinery, a production target of Rs. 2 crores had been envisaged in the Second Plan. Four schemes for manufacturing various items of printing machinery had been approved by Government.

Shri Shah further said that for paper machinery, licences under the Industries Act had been issued to 15 firms for manufacturing paper machinery worth Rs. 9.5 crores annually. Most of these firms were likely to go into production shortly. In the case of structural fabrications, a target capacity of 4.5 lakh tons of steel structurals had been envisaged for 1960-61.

PERMITS FOR UNREGISTERED LOOMS

A Press Note issued by the Textile Commissioner on November 17 says that according to the Press Note issued on November 5, owners of unregistered powerlooms working without permits issued under the Textile Control Orders were required to submit their applications before November 30. In view of several

representations received for extension of time, the Government of India have decided to extend this period up to December 31.

The Press Note further says that with the application, it will be sufficient if a certificate is produced from the Central Excise authorities that the looms in question had been acquired and installed before October 31, and have been issued licences under the Central Excise Rules.

SURVEY OF HANDLOOMS

An announcement made in Bombay on November 29 says that steps are now under way all over the country to get reliable information regarding production in the handloom and powerloom sectors of the textile industry.

Statistically-designed surveys on a sample basis have already begun in six States with a view to assessing the production in the handloom sector. Other States are expected to be covered shortly. The All India Handloom Board considered the question in great detail. It was decided to give financial assistance to State Governments for conducting the surveys.

The total estimated production of handloom cloth in India is about 1,900 million yards. On the basis of about 22.8 lakh commercial looms the per loom production is about 830 yards per annum.

The census of powerlooms, which has recently been completed, indicated that the total number of unauthorised powerlooms producing cotton fabrics is about 18,000. The estimate of 33,000 unauthorised powerlooms mentioned in some quarters may thus be regarded as an over-estimate. Government have recently decided to regularise the unregistered powerlooms through the issue of formal permits.

PROTOTYPE PRODUCTION-CUM-TRAINING CENTRES

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, said in the Lok Sabha during question hour on November 22 that the prototype production-cum-training centre at Rajkot had started functioning and that 118 candidates had been admitted there. The cost of machi-

nery and equipment for the Centre received up to October 1960 from the U.S. Technical Co-operation Mission was approximately Rs. 19.26 lakhs.

As regards the Centre at Okhla, Shri Shah said that all the buildings, except the hostel and the canteen, were expected to be ready by the end of the year.

About the Centre, at Guindy in Madras, Shri Shah said that negotiations were still in progress regarding the details.

A four-member delegation from France arrived in New Delhi on November 16 for discussing further details about the establishment of the Guindy centre.

MAIZE FOR STARCH

According to an announcement of November 19, the Government of India have permitted the use of hybrid maize for industrial purposes. The starch factories will now be able to buy and use this variety of maize for manufacturing starch. An Amendment Order in this connection has been issued by the Government of India which comes into effect immediately.

The use of all other types of Indian maize for the manufacture of starch is banned under the Indian Maize (Prohibition of Use in Manufacture of Starch) Order, 1959.

INDO-BURMESE TRADE TALKS

A joint communique issued at New Delhi on the Indo-Burmese Trade Talks on November 23, 1960 says:—

"At the invitation of the Government of India, a Burmese Trade Delegation, led by U Hla Gyaw, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Trade Development, Union of Burma, arrived in India on November 10, 1960. After a preliminary round of discussions at Delhi, the Delegation visited Bombay, Bangalore, Cochin, Madras and Calcutta to see centres of industrial production and to study the availability of goods of various kinds needed by Burma.

"The Delegation has been impressed by the prospects of economic co-operation and expansion of trades between the two countries. As a result of the visit, the members of

the Delegation have already made some purchases.

"On their return to Delhi, discussions were resumed between the Burmese Delegation and representatives of the Government of India led by Shri B. B. Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Department of Food.

"The two Delegations have agreed that the volume of trade between these two neighbouring countries should be raised to as high a level as practicable and that the question of entering into another long-term trade agreement and also another long-term rice agreement should be considered.

"The Burmese Delegation offered to sell and the Indian Delegation agreed to purchase 200,000 tons of rice out of the 1961 crop for the present. The Burmese Delegation agreed to offer an additional quantity later, if possible."

RUPEE PAYMENT AGREEMENTS

India had concluded rupee payment agreements with 13 countries, said the Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Satish Chandra, in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 22. The countries were Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Burma, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Pakistan, Poland, Rumania, U.S.S.R., Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and Yugoslavia. Besides, the State Trading Corporation of India had such agreements with official trade organisations in North Korea and Tunisia.

SALE OF RUSSIAN OIL

Shri K.D. Malaviya, Minister for Mines and Oil, said in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 16 that against the contract for import of certain deficit oil products entered into by the Indian Oil Company with the Russian Trade Organisation in July 1960, the first consignment of about 11,000 tons of High Speed Diesel was received towards the end of August 1960. About 800 tons had since been sold. Another tanker of about 11,000 tons of kerosene oil arrived on November 7.

IMPORT POLICY FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS

The import policy for twelve out of the twenty items, which had been held over at the time of the announcement of the half-yearly import policy on October 1, 1960, was announced by the Government of India on November 21.

The items for which the import policy has now been announced include machine tools; surgical instruments, apparatus and appliances; agricultural tractors; watches; photographic negatives and printing paper; printing paper; packing and wrapping paper; giant motor, motor cycle and bicycle tyres and tubes; and unset and uncut diamonds.

For machine tools, the import quota for Established Importers has been reduced from 30 per cent General and 30 per cent Soft to 20 per cent General and 20 per cent Soft. In the case of surgical instruments, apparatus and appliances, while there is no change in the import quota, the concession extended during the last half-year period in the shape of supplementary licences has been withdrawn. For tractors, there will be no import quota for the current half-year (October 1960-March 1961).

The import quota in respect of complete watches has been halved to five per cent General and five per cent Soft. For photographic negatives and printing paper, excluding X-Ray films, the reduction will be from 33.3 per cent General and 33.3 per cent Soft to 25 per cent General and 25 per cent Soft.

For printing paper, the quota has been reduced from 12½ per cent to 7½ per cent and for packing and wrapping paper from 7½ per cent to 5 per cent. In the case of filter paper, there is no change as compared to April-September 1960. For paper not otherwise specified, the quota has been maintained as during the last half year, but the additional licences which were being issued during the last half year will now not be granted.

For giant motor, motor cycle, bicycle tyres and tubes and flaps and solid tyres, the quota will continue to be as during the last half-year, viz. 75 per cent. The licences will, however, not be valid for import of bicycle tyres and tubes. For diamonds unset and imported

uncut, excluding bort and industrial diamonds, the quota has been reduced from 10 per cent to nil.

The import policy for card clothing and card accessories will continue to be the same as before, viz. 66.6 per cent General and 66.6 per cent Soft.

Export Of Manganese Ore

The Government of India announced on November 23 the policy for export of manganese ore for a three-year period beginning from January 1, 1961.

During this period, the export of manganese ore will be regulated as follows:—

Export quotas will be allotted as in 1959-60 for the period beginning January 1, 1961. The releases of quotas for October, November and December 1960 will be made on a pro-rata basis.

In order to co-ordinate movement capacity with export potential and ensure supplies of ore according to the qualities and schedule of deliveries desired by overseas buyers, all export transactions of manganese ore will have to be registered with the State Trading Corporation. A copy of the relevant sale contract should be filed for this purpose with the Corporation. All shipments will be made by the shippers-mine-owners (including the STC) in their own name.

To enable established exporters and mine-owners to maintain and develop their relationship with the traditional buyers of Indian manganese ore they will have opportunity under the joint marketing arrangements of the STC to negotiate, sign and execute contracts and ship the ore, as agents of the STC in respect of the quantities out of the STC's quota placed at their disposal.

Newcomers, i.e., the parties who had no quotas to their credit in 1959-60, have been advised to offer their tonnages to the STC and may export as agents to the STC.

RAIL MOVEMENT

In order to make rail movement free to the maximum extent practicable, it has been decided that no

movement quota slips will be necessary for any grade of ore on the Western Railway sectors to the Bombay Port, i.e., from loading stations of Dohad, Shivarajpur, Nathpuri and Pani in the Panchmahal districts of Bombay and Rajasthan stations. Movement quota slips will be freely issued for the raling of low-grade ores analysing 40% and below from Garividi, Srikakulam, Bobbili, Salur, Raygada and Nallimaria stations for export through Visakhapatnam, on the production of foreign sales contracts to the railway authorities.

To facilitate and continue rail movement on and from January 1, 1961, all Joint Chief Controllers of Imports and Exports will be asked to issue movement slips to all parties who had quotas in 1959-60 to the extent of half of their tonnages covered by such quotas.

All barter transactions will be handled only by the STC; the export tonnages under such transactions will be procured under the joint marketing arrangements according to the qualities, ports of shipment, schedule of delivery, etc.

In order to enable parties, who held quotas in 1959-60 and were unable to fulfil their firm commitments owing to rail transport difficulties, the validity of quotas against unfulfilled commitments have been extended up to December 31, 1960 in respect of tonnages lying at the port or in transit on September 30, 1960.

Export of Mica

The fourth extraordinary general meeting of the Mica Export Promotion Council was held in Calcutta on November 16.

'Addressing the meeting, Shri S.K. Sen, Chairman of the Council, disclosed that the quantity of export of mica from India increased to 3,47,218 cwts. during the first six months of this year, as compared with 2,39,443 cwts. exported during the same period last year. But though the quantity of export increased, the value earned had declined to Rs. 5.27 crores this year, as against Rs. 5.39

crores last year during the same period. This decline in earnings was attributed to the fact that the U.S.A., which was the largest purchaser of Indian mica till last year, stopped buying on account of the cessation of contract. At the same time, more European countries, including the U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia and Poland, were now purchasing Indian mica. It was stated that if the export to U.S.A. was excluded, the overall value of export of mica to other countries had increased by about 26.5% during the first half of this year, as compared with that in the same period last year.

The chairman informed the members that the Government of India had now decided to set up a Mica Research Centre at the Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute, Jadavpur, Calcutta, at a cost of over Rs. 8 lakhs.

The meeting decided to set up a sub-committee for fixation of minimum export prices of mica.

It was also decided that the Mica Export Promotion Council should have 12 executive members, including a Vice-Chairman, instead of nine as at present.

REQUISITIONING OF BENGAL DESHI COTTON

According to a Press Note issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, on November 28, the Textile Commissioner had received representations from mills consuming Bengal Deshi cotton that they were not able to procure their requirements within the ceiling prices. At the request of some mills, stocks of Bengal Deshi cotton had already been requisitioned and additional stocks would be requisitioned, as applications were received from the mills in terms of the press note dated October 28, 1960 issued by the Textile Commissioner.

With a view to ascertaining the actual quantity of Bengal Deshi cotton required for the whole season, textile mills and factories engaged in the manufacture of absorbent

and surgical cottons were requested to send to the Textile Commissioner particulars of their requirements by December 5.

COMPOUNDED LEVY SCHEME FOR KHANDSARI

A Press Note issued on November 30 by the Ministry of Finance says that, in order to help manufacturers, the Government of India have decided to extend the compounded levy scheme to the units, which produce Khandsari sugar with the aid of sulphitation plant, with effect from December 1, 1960.

By virtue of this scheme, the manufacturers will be required to pay a composition fee on the rated capacity of the equipments employed and would thereafter be absolved of the day-to-day checking or verification of the production by the Central Excise staff. The rates for different types of centrifugals used by the industry have been notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary of December 1.

The compounded levy scheme for the Khandsari sugar produced without the aid of sulphitation plant was introduced with effect from March 1, 1960. Representations were received from the Khandsari manufacturers producing Khandsari with the aid of sulphitation plant for extension of the scheme to their units also.

INCREASE OF CAPITAL BY COMPANIES

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, informed the Lok Sabha during question hour on November 16 that between April 1959, and October this year, 174 companies obtained consents to the increase of capital.

Shri Desai said that 21 companies were given consents during the said period for issue of shares at a premium.



CIVIL AVIATION IN FIRST HALF OF 1960

The half-yearly report of the Department of Civil Aviation for the period January-June 1960 says that during the period under review, Air India International received three Boeing 707 jet aircraft. The phased programme of introducing Boeings on the Corporation's services to Europe and the U.S.A. began on April 19, with an inaugural flight on the Bombay-Cairo-Rome-London route. By May 14, Air India International introduced Boeing aircraft on four of their weekly services to London. From May 14, two of the weekly services on the India-U.K. route to New York have been extended.

With the operation of five jet services a week to London, three of which have been extended to New York, the programme of introducing Boeing 707 jet aircraft on all services to London and New York was completed.

A halt at Delhi was included on one of A.I.I.'s three services a week on the Bombay-Calcutta-Bangkok-Hong Kong-Tokyo route. Calcutta was directly linked with two of the five A.I.I. services per week to London and New York.

TURNOUT

During the six months, A.I.I. flew 5,655,821 kilometers on scheduled services, carrying 44,814 passengers, 1,459,572 kilograms of cargo and 377,690 kilograms of mail as against 6,061,607 kilometers flown and 44,333 passengers, 1,169,062 kilograms of cargo and 473,008 kilograms of mail carried during the corresponding period of 1959. The figures for the second half of 1959 were 6,093,529 kilometers flown and 47,163 passengers, 1,458,599 kilograms of cargo and 435,809 kilograms of mail carried.

The capacity ton kilometers operated during the period was 53,799,071 as against 49,412,127

in the corresponding period of 1959 and 49,686,983 in the second half of 1959. Despite the strike, there is some increase in the capacity ton kilometers operated due to the introduction of bigger aircraft on the India-U.K. route and the extension of service to the U.S.A.

The figures of revenue ton kilometers pertaining to passengers, cargo and mail during the period were 185.78 lakhs, 73 lakhs and 20.75 lakhs respectively, as against 183.49 lakhs, 63.99 lakhs and 25.52 lakhs during the corresponding period of 1959 and 198.24 lakhs, 75.73 lakhs and 24.93 lakhs during the second half of 1959.

The overall load factor during the period under review was 52 per cent as against 55.3 per cent in the corresponding period of 1959 and 60.2 per cent in the second half of 1959.

INDIAN AIRLINES

The Indian Airlines Corporation, on its scheduled service, flew 14,267,674 kilometers, carrying 372,317 passengers, 16,671,208 kilograms of cargo and 2,938,972 kilograms of mail during the period under review as against 14,026,749 kilometers flown and 327,685 passengers, 15,884,674 kilograms of cargo and 2,929,526 kilograms of mail carried during the corresponding period of 1959. The figures for the second half of 1959 were 13,635,115 kilometers flown and 316,979 passengers, 14,991,761 kilograms of cargo and 2,986,704 kilograms of mail carried.

The capacity ton kilometers operated during the period was 52,021,719, as against 49,460,856 during the corresponding period of 1959 and 49,194,058 during the second half of 1959.

The figures of revenue ton kilometers pertaining to passengers, cargo and mail during the first half

of 1960 were 261.66 lakhs, 89.70 lakhs and 29.79 lakhs respectively, as against 227.20 lakhs, 83.35 lakhs and 29.95 lakhs during the corresponding period of 1959. The figures for the second half of 1959 were 227 lakhs, 83.16 lakhs and 30.11 lakhs.

The overall revenue load factor during the period under review was 73.3 per cent as against 68.8 per cent during the corresponding period of 1959 and 69.2 per cent during the second half of 1959.

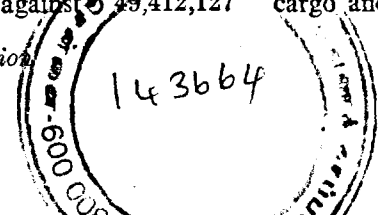
NEW SERVICES

From February 6, the daily service operated by the I.A.C. on the Delhi-Jaipur route was reorganised to operate as Delhi-Jaipur-Udaipur-Ahmedabad on a frequency of three times a week; Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur on a frequency of two times a week; and Delhi-Jaipur on a frequency of two times a week. A new service connecting Delhi and Kathmandu via Lucknow and Varanasi was introduced on April 1 on a frequency of four times a week. From April 1, the frequency of the Bombay-Karachi non-stop service was increased from twice weekly to thrice weekly, and the frequency of the Calcutta-Madras non-stop Viscount service was increased from six times a week to daily.

The frequency on the Madras-Colombo stage of Bombay-Madras-Colombo service was also increased from six times a week to daily on April 1. The Delhi-Srinagar non-stop service was resumed on April 2, on a frequency of four times a week. Viscount aircraft were introduced on this service on April 23. From June 1, the frequency of the Delhi-Srinagar non-stop service has been increased from four times a week to daily. Srinagar-Leh service was resumed from April 4, on a frequency of twice a week.

NIGHT AIRMAIL

During the first half of 1960, the night airmail services carried 24,959 passengers, 839,256 kilograms of cargo and 924,051 kilograms of mail as against 22,643 passengers, 704,822 kilograms of cargo and 976,232 kilograms of mail in the corresponding period of



1959. The figures for the second half of 1959 were 21,659 passengers, 789,460 kilograms of cargo and 934,704 kilograms of mail.

The daily average was 137 passengers, 4,611 kilograms of cargo and 5,077 kilograms of mail as against 125 passengers, 3,894 kilograms of cargo and 5,394 kilograms of mail during the first half of 1959 and 118 passengers, 4,291 kilograms of cargo and 5,080 kilograms of mail in the second half of 1959.

NON-SCHEDULED SERVICES

At the end of June 1960, in addition to A.I.I. and I.A.C., seven air transport companies and 16 flying clubs held permits for non-scheduled services.

On non-scheduled services, Indian air carriers flew 4,728,499 kilometers, carrying 48,957 passengers and 17,097,262 kilograms of cargo in the first half of 1960 as against 4,156,735 kilometers flown and 40,599 passengers and 16,848,942 kilograms of cargo carried during the corresponding period of 1959. The figures for the second half of 1959 were 4,776,758 kilometers flown and 48,278 passengers and 19,952,426 kilograms of cargo carried.

AERODROMES

At the end of June, there were 85 aerodromes controlled and maintained by the Civil Aviation Department. Three new aerodromes were under construction at Behala in West Bengal, and at Raxaul and Joghani in Bihar. The construction of the aerodromes at Phoolbagh in U.P. and Tulihal in Manipur was almost complete.

At Bombay (Santa Cruz) airport, a scheme involving an expenditure of Rs. 4 crores in connection with the extension of runway, land acquisition and the cutting of hill was in progress. At Calcutta (Dum Dum) airport, a scheme involving an expenditure of Rs. 3.23 crores was sanctioned for the extension of runway and for the construction of a new air terminal building. At Delhi (Palam) airport, a new runway was under construction at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.5 crores.

During the half year, the aerodromes at Prasadpur (West Bengal), Kolapani (Assam), Boregajuli

(Assam) and Kadambini (West Bengal) were licensed for private use.

A storm-warning radar was installed and put in operation at Gauhati airport on January 18. An aerodrome beacon was installed at Udaipur. Observation of runway visual range in marginal visibility conditions commenced from Delhi (Palam) airport on March 15. Varanasi (Babatpur) airport was declared to be a customs airport from April 1.

TRAINING CENTRES

The Civil Aviation Training Centre, Allahabad, comprises Flying, Aerodrome, Engineering and Communication Schools, with an allied repair and overhaul organisation.

During the half year under review, 32 trainees completed the flying training course in the Flying School. At the Aerodrome School, 39 Aerodrome Operators, 12 Assistant Aerodrome Officers and 40 Fire Service Personnel underwent refresher courses. At the Communication School, nine trainees completed the Radio Technicians Advanced Refresher Course, 28 trainees the Specialist Course in VOR/AD-200, 15 trainees the Specialist Course in ILS/Radar, 15 trainees the combined RTT and Long Range Course for radio operators, and 12 trainees the Specialist Course in RTT for Radio Technicians.

The candidates from foreign countries who completed training at the Centre, during the period included one Nepalese national, three candidates from Singapore and one from Ceylon. Besides, there were 93 trainees, including Ceylonese and 6 Nepalese nationals, undergoing training in different courses.

FLYING AND GLIDING CLUBS

There are 17 subsidised flying clubs in India. The Coimbatore Flying Club has been included in the subsidy scheme of the Government since January 20. During the half year under review, these clubs trained in all 71 'A' pilots and one 'B' pilot, and logged a total flying time of 16,462-35 hours.

There are three Government Gliding Centres at Allahabad, Bangalore and Poona and two

subsidised gliding clubs—Delhi Gliding Club, New Delhi, and the Birla Gliding Club, Pilani. During the period under review, the three Government Gliding Centres and the Delhi Gliding Club trained 29 pilots and logged a total of 1,66753 hours. A total of 9,745 launches were carried out during the period.

PILOTS AND ENGINEERS

The number of aircraft holding current certificates of registration at the end of June was 524, of which 190 aircraft held current Certificates of Airworthiness. Thirteen aircraft were registered in the name of A.I.I. and 88 aircraft in the name of I.A.C. During the period under review, the fleet of A.I.I. was supplemented with the addition of three Boeing 707 jet aircraft.

The number of persons holding current pilot's 'A' licences increased from 1,197 at the end of December 1959 to 1,248 at the end of June 1960. The number of pilots holding 'B' licences which stood at 597 at the end of December 1959, however, decreased by 12. Only one 'A-1' licence was current at the end of June.

The number of aircraft maintenance engineers holding Indian licences increased from 1,094 in December 1959 to 1,134 in June 1960.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

There are 81 aeronautical communication stations in operation providing 139 navigational aids and 541 communication channels. During the half year under review, the communication station at Bhuntar in the Kulu valley was reopened on a more permanent footing. The stations at Udaipur and Ranchi were also put into regular operation to meet the needs of air operations.

The installation of an airport surveillance radar (ASR) at Bombay (Santa Cruz) airport fulfilled a long-standing need. A modern type of short distance navigational aid, known as the Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Radio Range (VOR), was provided at Gaya aerodrome. Out of the 14 VORs planned, this is the seventh in India, the other six having been already provided at Bombay, Madras, Ahmeda-

bad, Nagpur, Tiruchirapalli and Ootacamund near Coimbatore.

Medium frequency non-directional radio beacons were provided at Porbandar and Ranchi aerodromes and those at Chandigarh and Baruaipur were replaced by higher power equipment. The manual type of Very High Frequency Direction Finder (VHF D-F) at Raipur was replaced by automatic type Marconi AD-200.

WIRELESS INSTALLATIONS

The construction of permanent transmitting stations was completed at Bhubaneswar and Porbandar aerodromes. The radio facilities at the station at Port Blair were further augmented by the provision of aeromobile short distance radio-telephone channels. Inter-tower radio-telephone circuit was provided at Kanpur (civil) aerodrome to facilitate air traffic control service.

In accordance with the recommendations of the ICAO Middle East and South East Asia Regional Air Navigation meeting, the revised frequency allocation plan for the operation of en route radio-telegraph and radio-telephone channels was introduced in India in March and April respectively. The manual wireless telegraph circuits between Bombay and Colombo as also between Delhi and Madras were replaced by radio-teletype (RTTY) circuits.

Five such RTTY circuits already exist in India, of which four are connected to locations outside the country. A radio-telegraph circuit was established between Bombay and Madras for operation on a continuous basis.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The fourth prototype of the two-seater Ashvini Glider, incorporating all production features, was completed. Fabrication of the fifth prototype of Ashvini Glider was started. Production drawings of the Glider Winch fabricated in the Civil Aviation Department were completed. The drawings were made available for sale to private firms interested in the indigenous manufacture of this winch.

Routine testing of aviation turbine fuel samples drawn from the various depots of the suppliers was

started. Installation of the knocking engines was nearing completion. Work was started on the fabrication of the heating system of the wood seasoning kiln.

ACCIDENTS

During the half year, there were 20 major accidents in India involving 14 Indian registered aircraft, four aircraft registered in foreign countries and three gliders.

Four accidents to Indian registered aircraft, one accident to a glider and three accidents to foreign registered aircraft proved fatal and resulted in the loss of 24 lives (17 members of the crew, six passengers

and one third party).

The civil air transport discussions between delegations of the Indian and the U.K. Governments commenced in New Delhi on January 20 and concluded on February 1. The delegations agreed to the arrangements for the operation of commercial air services between the two countries in accordance with the Indian-U.K. Air Services Agreement.

An Air Services Agreement between the Governments of India and Czechoslovakia was signed at New Delhi on February 13.

Inter-governmental discussions were also held by India with the Netherlands, Australia and France during the period under review.

CONFERENCE ON STATE TRANSPORT

The All-India Conference of State Transport Commissioners and Controllers was held in Bombay on November 24 and 25.

Inaugurating the conference, Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of State for Transport and Communications, stated that the Planning Commission had agreed to a target of 60,000 for commercial vehicles by the end of the Third Five-Year Plan, even though the allocations for nationalised road transport had been kept down at Rs. 18 crores only.

Shri Raj Bahadur envisaged that when the target was reached, or even before that, "we will have reached the take-off stage and will be in a position to expand the road transport industry to any limit. We will then be dependent neither on foreign know-how nor on foreign exchange."

RECOMMENDATIONS

The conference recommended that model scheme for setting up State Transport Finance Corporations or similar agencies should be drawn up for consideration and implementation by the State Governments.

The recommendation followed a review of the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the Masani Committee, as also of the decisions arrived at by the conference at its previous meeting on the question of making credit facilities available to the transport operators.

The conference emphasised that co-operative societies for running goods transport services should be set up by the States concerned, without further delay, so that the experience gained by such working could be taken advantage of by others. The scheme, to be introduced on a pilot basis, envisages the formation of co-operative societies with membership restricted to workers like drivers, mechanics, booking clerks and depot managers, all enrolled from the educated unemployed.

The conference was informed that of the six States selected for the purpose, Delhi and Kerala had already set up such societies and that the State Governments of West Bengal, Orissa and Madras were taking steps in the direction.

The conference underlined the need for taking expeditious measures to implement the decisions taken earlier in regard to important matters like single-point taxation.

WAY-SIDE AMENITIES

The subject of granting temporary permits for long distance routes was discussed at length. It was decided that the State Transport Commissioners should furnish to the Ministry of Transport and Communications an up-to-date list containing the particulars of permits which had been issued by them so

that the matter could be examined in more detail.

Another decision arrived at the conference related to the provision of way-side amenities by private entrepreneurs or local bodies. It was stated that in most of the States, where the bulk of passenger transport was nationalised, such facilities were provided by the transport undertakings. But in the private sector such facilities were either absent or negligible. It was accordingly recommended that efforts should be made for the provision of amenities at a specified minimum scale everywhere.

The conference agreed to the adoption of a Code of Conduct for tourist car operators in order to ensure better and efficient service for tourists. Broadly speaking, these included special uniforms for tourist car drivers, the issue of a photograph along with the licence number etc., to be displayed on the vehicle itself and special attention to be paid to the cleanliness of the persons authorised to drive the tourist vehicles.

KHANDWA-HINGOLI LINE

The Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, said in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 23 that the entire line from Khandwa to Hingoli had been opened to goods traffic from November 1, and it was proposed to open the line for passenger traffic in the middle of December this year. The construction work had been spread over a period of 6½ years and the amount spent up to the end of September 1960 was Rs. 11.38 crores.

IMPORTED CONTENT IN RAILWAY PURCHASES

Addressing the eighth meeting of the Indian Railways Equipment Advisory Committee held in New Delhi on November 25, Shri S. V. Ramaswamy, Deputy Minister for Railways, disclosed that, according to the preliminary reports regarding purchases made by the Indian Railways during 1959-60, the imported content was further reduced from 9.6 per cent to 8.6 per cent. The value of purchases made

during the period by the Railways from small-scale industry amounted to Rs. 194,00,000.

Shri Ramaswamy expected further reduction in the imported content of rolling stock and equipment in future with the commencement of electric locomotives manufacture in the country, as also the electrical equipment for electric multiple unit coaches.

RAIL SLEEPERS FROM KASHMIR

The Northern Railway has negotiated with the Forest Department of Kashmir for the purchase of 10 lakh sleepers, said the Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri S.V. Ramaswamy, in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 23.

Food & Agriculture

FOOD ZONE OF M.P. AND MAHARASHTRA

Shri S.K. Patil, Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on November 24 in which he stated that the Government had been pursuing for some time the question of linking Madhya Pradesh with Maharashtra and Gujarat States; so that the surplus wheat and rice of Madhya Pradesh could move freely to the other two States. An agreement had not been reached in this respect.

The Minister added that the Madhya Pradesh Government were issuing an order under which the wholesale dealers of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat States who wanted to undertake export of wheat and rice from Madhya Pradesh would be granted licences freely for this purpose. Such licensed dealers would have the authority to export wheat and rice from Madhya Pradesh to Maharashtra or Gujarat States without any export permit.

BRAHMAPUTRA BRIDGE STUDY WEEK

The Brahmaputra Bridge Study Week, organised by the Railway Board, began in New Delhi on November 21.

The meetings of the Week were attended by a team of 17 railway and highway engineers from some of the countries of the ECAFE region. They arrived in New Delhi on November 19 to study the construction technique of the Brahmaputra Bridge at Pandu in Assam State. The visit, which would last for ten days, was organised by the Government of India under the auspices of the ECAFE.

The itinerary of the team included visits to the Maithon Dam, Durgapur Steel Plant and the Sindri Fertilizer Factory.

'SHELL' GODOWNS

According to an announcement of November 26, a four-member committee has been appointed by the Government of India to investigate the causes of an accident, which occurred to 'shell' units of a godown, being constructed at Calcutta by the Central Public Works Department, recently.

The Committee will assess the sequence and causes of failure of the 'shell' structure and its various components, and determine whether the designs, specifications, materials used, and execution of works, were according to sound engineering practices.

These godowns are for storage of foodgrains all over the country. The expenditure on the godowns during the Second Plan period is expected to be about Rs. 6 crores.

The first 'shell' godown was constructed at Visakhapatnam some years ago, and has been in use ever since. In addition, two godowns have been completed at Jhinerapol (Calcutta). The third one, under construction, also at Jhinerapol, has met with this accident.

BHOODAN LAND

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 22, Shri S.N. Mishra, Deputy Minister of Planning, said that 44,11,191 acres of land had been donated up to August 1960 by various individuals towards the Bhoodan movement.

PREVENTION OF FOOD ADULTERATION

The All India Seminar on Food Adulteration, which ended its three-day session in Hyderabad on November 22, suggested an efficient and speedy implementation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. The formation of zonal advisory committees to examine the proper implementation of the Act was also proposed. The Seminar recommended that there should be at least one well-equipped laboratory for every State to test food articles, as well as a number of training centres for the enforcement staff.

Addressing the Seminar, the Union Minister of Health, Shri Karmarkar said that he had noted with great concern that the percentage of adulteration varied from 66.7 per cent to 15.9 per cent giving an all India average of 29.1 per cent. This meant that out of about every 3 samples taken 1 sample was found to be adulterated.

The Minister said that Government were greatly concerned at the percentage of adulteration of ghee with vanaspati. During 1959, the percentage of adulteration in various States ranged from 6 to 86. The figures for the last 10 years from 1950 to 1959 showed that in almost all the States the percentage of adulteration was on the increase.

WAREHOUSEMEN MEET

A three-day All-India Conference of Warehousemen was held at Indore from November 21 to 23. The Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Shri H.V. Pataskar, inaugurated the conference which was organised by the Central Warehousing Corporation.

The Managing Directors of the Central and State Warehousing Corporations, Registrars of Co-operative Societies, representatives of

the Reserve Bank, State Bank and other Banks participated in the deliberations. The conference discussed various aspects of the warehousing scheme for rendering greater service, particularly to the producers.

AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

India's first Agricultural University was formally opened on

November 17 at Rudrapur near Nainital in Uttar Pradesh. The University is residential and provides education in agriculture, animal husbandry, engineering and basic Sciences and Humanities. The University has been set up in the midst of a 16,000 acre mechanised farm of the State Government. The farm not only acts as a laboratory for the students but also partially meets their financial requirements.

River Projects & Power

GANDHISAGAR POWER HOUSE AND KOTAH BARRAGE INAUGURATED

The Prime Minister, Shri Nehru, inaugurated the power house at the Gandhisagar Dam in Madhya Pradesh, and the Kotah Barrage at Kotah in Rajasthan on November 19 and 20 respectively.

Located on the river Chambal, the Gandhisagar Dam and the Kotah Barrage are part of the Chambal Valley Development Scheme, an inter-State project undertaken by the Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan Governments.

The power house has five units of 23,000 kw.—four of which are now commissioned. The transmission lines, about 923 miles in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, have also been nearly completed.

DAM AND CANALS

The dam, 204 ft. high and 1,685 ft. long, is located about five miles downstream of the Chaurasgarh fort on the border of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, and has created a reservoir for storage of 6.8 million acre ft. of water.

The barrage at Kotah, about 2,000 ft. long, overlooks the old palace of Maharao Bhim Singh, and is designed to allow 7.5 lakh cusecs of water. Two canals on either side of the Chambal river—162 miles in Rajasthan and 398 miles in Madhya Pradesh—will eventually irrigate 11 lakh acres of

land in Bundi and Kotah districts of Rajasthan and Morena and Bhind districts of Madhya Pradesh.

With the completion of the Gandhisagar Dam and the power house, the network of transmission lines for distribution of power, the barrage at Kotah, and canals taking off from it, the first stage of the Chambal scheme has been completed.

SECOND STAGE

In the second stage, another dam to be named after the Rajput hero, Rana Pratap, will be constructed at Rewatbhatta in Rajasthan, about 20 miles downstream of the Gandhisagar Dam. The preliminary work for this dam has already been taken in hand. The power house to be built below the dam will produce 90,000 kw. of power. Further, by the construction of this dam, irrigation supplies will be available for an additional area of three lakh acres of land in the two States.

In the last stage of the Chambal Scheme, a third dam at Kotah will be constructed, along with a power station. This will necessitate further extension of transmission lines.

The cost of the first stage, comprising the Gandhisagar Dam, power house and the Kotah barrage, along with the transmission lines and the canal system is estimated to

be Rs. 63.59 crores.

The ultimate benefits from the scheme will be irrigation for 14 lakh acres of land and generation of

2,32,000 kw of power at 60 per cent load factor for the benefit of the people in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

MEETING OF IRRIGATION AND POWER BOARD

The annual session of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power was held in New Delhi from November 21 to 23. Inaugurating the session, Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim, Union Minister for Irrigation and Power, complimented the engineers for the high degree of skill, resourcefulness and courage displayed by them in discharging their responsibilities. He said that during the two Five Year Plans, 10.8 million acres of land had been brought under irrigation, exclusive of the area benefited under minor irrigation in Second Plan, and 3.5 million kw of installed capacity of power had been added.

This was quite an impressive record. But, the Minister added, the water resources of India were enormous, and only a small percentage of these resources had so far been utilised. The total culturable land was 434 million acres, out of which 322 million acres had been sown or cultivated by 1957. They had been able to provide irrigation only to 56 million acres of the cultivable land at the end of the First Plan, and 6.1 million acres were expected to be added under major and medium schemes in the Second Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

After discussions, the Central Board of Irrigation and Power has recommended the consideration by Government of immediate steps to be taken to make an overall assessment of the country's water resources in co-operation with the Survey of India, the Geological Survey of India, and the Indian Meteorological Department.

It was also stated at the session that the collection of correct data and sustained research were the basic requirements for future planning. Moreover, the importance of surveys and investigations could not be overlooked in preparation of projects for the Third and subsequent Plans.

The Board further recommended

the setting up of pilot projects to increase efficiency of manual labour, as the methods employed at present could be further improved.

Other recommendations made by the Board emphasised the need for manufacture of scientific instruments for research work and electrical equipment for power houses within the country.

Two symposia on 'inter-connected grid operation of hydro and thermal stations' and 'canal-lining' were also held during the session.

UTILISATION OF WATER RESOURCES

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 27, the importance of investigations and surveys for irrigation and hydro-electric projects for the Third and subsequent Plans has been stressed in a communication sent to the States by the Government of India recently.

It is stated that, in planning for utilisation of land and water resources in the country, it is necessary to ensure that adequate progress is made on such investigations and surveys. Much time will be saved in the selection and acceptance of projects for the Third and subsequent Plans if these investigations and surveys are full and complete, and conform to uniform standards all over the country.

The Central Water and Power Commission assists in the co-ordination of investigations, particularly where the river basins extend over more than one State, and help the States in this work.

The State Governments have also been requested to set up adequately staffed investigation units under the State Chief Engineers, where such units have not so far been established. The work of the investigation units will include location of areas required for irrigation, examination and recommendation in regard to the relative priorities for such area, and assessment of water resources available and the needs of the

regions.

The preparation of preliminary reports on quantities of water that can be utilised at different sites in different river basins, surveys of possible project sites, and preparation of project reports will also be undertaken by these units.

GANGA-BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER COMMISSIONS MEET

The Ganga-Brahmaputra River Commissions, at their eleventh meeting held in New Delhi in the last week of November, have recommended that Punjab should in future be represented, in addition to U.P., Assam, Bihar and West Bengal, at their meetings. This was considered necessary, as the Yamuna river, a tributary of the Ganga, also passes through the Punjab territory.

The Commissions have recommended the immediate setting up of independent whole-time organisations to implement soil conservation works in the country.

The reports of West Bengal and Bihar Road-Bridges Committees were examined by the Commissions, and it was decided that detailed schemes and estimates should be prepared by the States in accordance with their recommendations. The allocation of funds, it was felt, could be settled by mutual negotiations between the States.

The Commissions also reviewed the progress of surveys, investigations, collection of data and execution of flood control schemes by Central and State agencies.

WATERLOGGING IN PUNJAB

A New Delhi announcement of November 30 says that a master plan for surface drainage and anti-waterlogging has been prepared by the Punjab Government, and is likely to be received by the Centre shortly for technical examination. Meanwhile, seven pilot projects to combat waterlogging have been initiated by the State.

The problem of waterlogging in Punjab extends to an area of 70.7 lakh acres. Of this, 32.7 lakh acres are acutely affected, the water-table in the area being less than five feet from the surface.

RESEARCH IN SILTING OF RESERVOIRS

In a written reply to a question on November 28, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, indicated in the Lok Sabha that under the programme of basic and fundamental research on problems relating to River Valley Projects and Flood Control Works during the Second Plan period, research on 'Sedimentation Studies in Streams and Reservoirs' was entrusted to the following State Research Stations and the amount allotted for this work in each case was: Irrigation and Power Research Institute, Punjab—Rs. 4,03,888; Irrigation Research Institute, Roorkee, Uttar Pradesh—Rs. 4,03,888; River Research Institute, West Bengal—Rs. 5,87,384; Hyderabad Engineering Research Laboratories, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh—Rs. 4,03,888; Soil Mechanics and Research Laboratory, Madras—Rs. 70,000; Mysore Engineering Research Station, Kri-

shnarajasagar Rs. 1,10,000; D.V.C.—Rs. 1,82,000; Hirakud Research Station—Rs. 1,10,000; and Chambal Valley Project Research Laboratory, Bhopal—Rs. 80,000.

SOIL TESTING LABORATORY

Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, stated in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 23 that the U.N. Special Fund had agreed to provide an assistance of Rs. 11.3 million towards the cost of equipment required for detailed investigation of 66 hydro-electric and multi-purpose river project sites in India, during the Third Five-Year Plan.

The equipment to be imported included machinery and apparatus for setting up a large-size and up-to-date soil mechanics testing laboratory to help investigations. The expenditure on buildings and staff, etc., of the Laboratory would be borne by the Government.

associated with the programme.

The Board considered the programme for education and training for official and non-official workers connected with the scheme and recommended that a sub-committee be appointed to formulate the syllabus for the various courses and suggest teaching arrangements.

As regards financial assistance to cooperative societies in pilot projects, the Board approved the pattern provided under the cooperative plan. This assistance will be given in the forms of State participation in share capital, managerial subsidy, medium and long-term loans and subsidy and loans for construction of godown-cum-cattle sheds, etc.

Shri S.K. Dey, Union Minister for Community Development and Co-operation, presided over the meeting.

Prizes for Books on Co-operation

An announcement of November 27 says that, in order to encourage the production of books and literature dealing with important aspects of the cooperative movement, the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation has decided to award prizes to authors and to purchase the copyright of books on specific subjects. The books are to be used by field workers, officials of cooperative societies and those interested in cooperation.

Following is the list of subjects: (i) cooperative farming, (ii) cooperation and management of a cooperative marketing society, (iii) procedures and account keeping in village cooperative society; (iv) consumers' cooperative society; (v) guide to cooperation for the village-level worker, (vi) stories of successful cooperatives, and (vii) a drama bringing out the benefits of cooperative credit.

The last date for receipt of entries is March 31, 1961.

Authors who wish to participate in the scheme may apply to, or contact, the Section Officer (Co-operation Training), Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation, Department of Co-operation, Room No. 465-A, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, for the synopsis of books mentioned above and for rules governing the award of prizes.



SUGGESTIONS ON CO-OPERATIVE FARMING

The National Cooperative Farming Advisory Board, which held its first meeting in New Delhi on November 19, unanimously recommended that cooperative farming societies should be constituted on a voluntary basis. While enunciating the principles for setting up cooperative societies in the pilot projects, the Board emphasised that the bulk of their membership should consist of small cultivators or landless agricultural labour or both. It was urged that land should be pooled for a minimum period of five years and the society should adopt labour intensive methods in agriculture and develop mixed farming like dairy keeping, poultry and cottage industries. Importance was attached to good working conditions and sound management of these societies.

The Board approved of a proposal to start the pilot projects from April 1961. During the first

year of the Third Five-Year Plan, 70 cooperative farm projects will be launched. In addition, 15 training centres will be set up for imparting education and training in cooperative farming. With reference to the existing cooperative societies which consist of four types, viz. better farming, tenant farming, joint farming and collective farming societies, the Board recommended that a society should be classified as a cooperative farming society only if it has pooled the man-power and land and carried on cultivation jointly.

FARMING BOARDS

With a view to generating popular enthusiasm for the scheme, the Board recommended the setting up of Cooperative Farming Boards by every State Government. In the districts, it was suggested that the Zila Parishad should also be closely

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

The Central Committee on Community Development at its meeting held in New Delhi on November 28 agreed that the programme of rural electrification should be accorded a very high priority in the Third Plan for development of the rural areas.

The Committee noted that even at the end of the Second Plan only 24,000 villages would have been electrified and at the end of the Third Plan, an additional 20,000 villages were expected to be electrified, bringing the total to 44,000. The Committee urged that electricity rates had to be fixed at a reasonable level taking into consideration the economic condition of the rural consumer. It was decided that a committee consisting of representatives of the Planning Commission and the Ministries concerned should examine the feasibility of taking a greater amount of power to rural areas within the overall physical allocation in the Third Plan.

C. D. PROGRAMME

The Committee felt that the task of rural welfare should be progressively entrusted to the Panchayat institutions which should be the principal co-ordinating agencies. Funds for welfare extension projects and local works programmes should be operated through Panchayat institutions who should work with the help of non-official institutions in the field.

The Committee reviewed the progress of the community development programme and the system of panchayati raj in various States. Till October 1960, there were 3,087 blocks covering 379,800 villages and bringing nearly 203 million people within its orbit. There are also 489 pre-extension blocks. Panchayati raj has already been implemented in Rajasthan, Andhra, Assam and Madras. Legislation has also been enacted in Mysore, Orissa and Punjab while it has been introduced in two States, viz. Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The progress made in the spheres of co-operation and agriculture was also reviewed.

Education & Culture

MEETING OF INDOLOGY COMMITTEE

The Indology Committee of the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, which met in New Delhi on November 25, recommended the institution of a scheme of Senior and Junior Fellowships to promote advanced research in Indology. At the initial stage, five Fellowships each in the senior and junior grades might be awarded to selected candidates for a two-year term. These candidates could also be allowed a year's extension, if necessary, to complete their research and bring out their publications.

The Committee further recommended that a research scholar be deputed to study the Central Asian Sanskrit Buddhist manuscripts in Soviet Russia availing of the facilities offered under the Cultural Agreement with the U.S.S.R.

CENTRAL INSTITUTE

The need to establish a Central Institute of Indology was reiterated by the Committee. It suggested that the Institute might be a registered body financed fully by Government. (The earlier view of the Committee had been that the Institute should be under direct Government control).

It was stated that besides carrying on advanced research in Indology the Central Institute would pursue the study of allied subjects which were essential to an understanding and interpretation of ancient Indian history and culture, such as Egyptology, Sinology, Tibetology and South-East Asian Studies.

A sub-committee was set up under the chairmanship of Prof. Nilakanta Sastri to consider the preliminaries relating to the setting up of the Institute.

ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS

Another sub-committee was appointed to work out a scheme for recommending grants-in-aid to

private institutions, other than universities, for making arrangements for locating, purchasing and preserving ancient monuments.

The Indology Committee also recommended the sanction of grants as suggested by the Government of Bihar for the publication of the Devanagari editions of the *Pali Att-hakathas*, which contained a wealth of information about the cultural history of India and neighbouring Asian countries.

The Committee agreed to recommend grants-in-aid to Shri Y.D. Ahuja of the University of Delhi for the publication of rare Persian manuscripts on 'Arjun Gita' and 'Gita Subodhini'.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY SANSKRIT BOARD

The Central Sanskrit Board, which held its fourth meeting at Madras on November 21 and 22 under the chairmanship of Shri M. Patanjali Sastri, selected a certain number of candidates for the award of research scholarships meant for products of traditional Sanskrit *Pathshalas*.

The Board approved of a Scheme of Standardisation of Sanskrit Studies and Examinations, embodying a reorganised course for Sanskrit institutions. Equivalents of Sanskrit examinations conducted by State Boards, Universities and private organisations in the country were recommended by the Board. Along with these, a scheme of equivalents and uniform nomenclature and stages for Sanskrit education and examinations in the country was also adopted.

ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

Preservation of precious but perishable ancient manuscripts by taking microfilm or photostat copies was another subject examined by the Board, which decided that

necessary steps should be taken for this purpose.

Allotment of funds by the Central and State Governments for the promotion of Sanskrit learning in the Third Plan was among the other subjects discussed by the Board. Applications for grants to certain institutions for development of Sanskrit dramatic activity were also recommended. With regard to a number of applications received from various voluntary organisations, *Pathshalas*, etc., for assistance, the Board decided to consider these at their next meeting which is to be held in Delhi.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPORTS

The Board of Governors of the National Institute of Sports, which held its third meeting in New Delhi on November 23, decided to prepare a master plan for the phased development of the Institute. The plan will include the broad features of modern sports institutes existing in some foreign countries, so that the Institute meets the long-term requirements of the country.

The Board was informed that the Punjab Government was agreeable to consider the transfer of Moti Bagh palace, including the adjoining buildings at Patiala to the Institute.

TRAINING OF COACHES

The Institute will be inaugurated in the first week of February 1961, when an *ad hoc* training course of six months for coaches of the Rajkumari Coaching Scheme and other trained coaches will be started. It was revealed at the meeting that the preliminary arrangements had been made for securing the services of coaches for wrestling, volley-ball, gymnastic and cricket. Arrangements were also being made to secure coaches for athletics, boxing, football, basketball and hockey.

The Board decided to have a panel of experts on different games who would be consulted by the Director of the Institute for appointment of coaches. The Board also considered the report submitted by Sarvashri M.K. Kaul and M.N. Kapur, who had been sent as observers to the

Rome Olympic Games. Sarvashri M.K. Kaul and Kapur in their report have suggested that, for the present, the National Institute of Sports should start three semi-independent courses. These include a general broad-based course to produce sport teachers and sport coaches; a special course of two years for those possessing a degree or diploma of a physical education college and an *ad hoc* training course of six months or more for coaches of the Rajkumari Coaching Scheme and other trained coaches.

UNIVERSITY IN NEW DELHI

Replying to a question on November 29, Dr. B.V. Keskar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, stated in the Lok Sabha that Government had recently received a copy of the resolution, passed by the University Grants Commission at its meeting on September 9, 1960, to the effect that it would be desirable to establish a separate University in New Delhi. The Minister said that the suggestion was under consideration.

CHEAP RADIO SETS

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, said in the Lok Sabha today that cheap radio sets, priced at Rs. 125, including all taxes except the local State sales tax, would become available in the market by the end of 1960. It had been decided that production of 50,000 to 60,000 cheap radio sets should be aimed at annually.

RESULTS OF RADIO PLAY COMPETITION

On November 30, the All India Radio announced 20 prizes for award to the winners at the Inter-University Radio Play Competition, 1960. In all 81 entries were received in 12 Indian languages from bonafide students of various universities. No play was received in Kashmiri and none won a prize in Tamil. Twelve plays were awarded first prizes and eight consolation prizes.

With a view to discovering talent and stimulating interest among students of colleges and universities, All India Radio holds a Radio

play competition every year in all the principal Indian languages with an additional prize for Hindi play received from non-Hindi speaking students. The plays are produced and presented by the students themselves. Separate prizes are given to the author and the producer.

FRENCH SCHOLARSHIPS

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 23, three candidates have been selected for the award of scholarships offered by the Government of France for higher studies in painting in that country during 1960-61.

Another candidate has been selected for the award of a scholarship for post-graduate study and research in electrical engineering under the scheme of scholarships offered for teachers in Technical Institutions and High Schools.

According to an announcement of November 20, one more candidate has been selected for the award of a scholarship for higher studies in painting offered by the Government of France during 1960-61.

These scholarships are administered by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.

ITALIAN SCHOLARSHIPS

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 29, two candidates have been selected for the award of scholarships offered by the Government of Italy for Research and Specialized Training in that country during 1960-61.

These scholarships are administered by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.

ADOPTION OF DEVANAGARI SCRIPT

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 24 on behalf of the Minister of Education, Dr. B.V. Keskar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, outlined the steps taken to popularise the revised Devanagari Script.

A copy of the alphabetical chart showing the finalised Devanagari script, together with an explanatory note, had been forwarded to all

the State Governments and the Central Ministries with the request to adopt the finalised script in all spheres of Government activities where the Devanagari script was at present used.

Further, the key-board for the Hindi typewriter had been revised in the light of the reformed Devanagari script and the Ministry of

Commerce and Industry had been requested to take up with the manufacturers the question of production of Hindi typewriters with this key-board.

The Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply had also been requested to equip the Government of India Presses with types based on the reformed script.



CONFERENCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERS

The four-day conference of Public Health Engineers, held at New Delhi in the third week of November, suggested that the Union Ministry of Health should initiate steps to establish water pollution control boards at the Centre and in the States to cover various regions as well as river valley basins.

The conference has expressed the views that the provision, in the Third Five-Year Plan, for urban and rural water supply projects should be increased; that the urban water supply and sewerage projects should be promoted as a self-paying industry; that the community should be encouraged to undertake projects with finances raised from the public and private sectors; and that the States should set up statutory regional works and sewerage boards for this purpose.

The conference further suggested that the loans for these projects could be repaid from the proceeds of water and drainage tax, sale of water on suitable tariff, revenue from sewerage connections, sewage farms, sludge and sludge gas, and funds now defrayed on obligatory services like scavenging and night-soil conservancy. The Union Ministry of Health should also try to secure financial assistance from international and bi-lateral agencies.

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS

To ensure better implementation of projects, the conference has recommended that no State Government should delay further the setting up of public health engineering departments with members drawn

from a separate cadre in the various categories and staff recruited for the department at different levels.

The conference has further suggested that all rural water supply and sanitation projects administered by various Ministries under the Five-Year Plans should be entrusted to the unitary control and supervision of the State public health engineering departments so that co-ordination and evaluation of progress is possible at all stages. In the implementation of the schemes, the field staff and community development and local development works staff could be utilised.

INVESTIGATIONS AND DESIGNS

To prepare a correct inventory based on accurate data so that the State Governments can take up an increasing work-load under an expanded programme, the conference has emphasised that the State Governments should establish separate units under their public health engineering departments for advanced investigations and designing of projects. This will enable better planning and overcome the handicap of inadequate data. The introduction of proper commercial accounting system and cost accounting methods in the maintenance of water supply and sewerage installations has been suggested so that accurate figures in respect of production, management and distribution will be available to the local bodies, creating a cost-consciousness in civic communities about water supply and sewerage undertakings.

The provincialisation of the municipal engineering and municipal subordinate engineering services and their integration with the Public Health Engineering Departments so that municipalities and local bodies may get efficient service from technical personnel is also urged.

RESEARCH AND TRAINING

The conference has advised the State Governments to avail of the training facilities provided by the Ministry of Health to enable their technical staff to receive post-graduate and short-term training and add to efficiency. Similarly, all State public health engineering organisations should avail fully of research facilities.

The conference has also urged that the public health engineering consultants in the private sector should be encouraged to set up practice.

The conference has suggested that steps should be taken to increase the production of C.I. pipes and valves and other scarce materials which, now being in short supply, are impeding progress.

CHOLERA RESEARCH CENTRE

It has been decided by the Indian Council of Medical Research to set up a cholera research centre in Calcutta to carry out continuous research on various aspects of the problem of cholera with a view to developing ultimately practical measures for the control and prevention of the disease, said Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha on November 28.

The Minister added that the Government of West Bengal who were collaborating in the project had agreed to place two wards of 40 beds each in the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Calcutta, at the disposal of the Indian Council of Medical Research for this purpose.

VITAMIN 'A' IN VANASPATI

According to an article in the Kartika 1882 issue of 'Vigyan Pragati', a Hindi journal of the C.S.I.R., a study to determine the extent of loss of vitamin 'A' in vanaspati during storage has re-

vealed that about 85% of the vitamin content remains in vanaspati after six months. The extent of loss depends on the period of storage as well as on the temperature at which vanaspati is stored.

COLOMBO PLAN FELLOWSHIPS

A New Delhi announcement of November 27 says that a number of fellowships are likely to be available in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Japan in Public Health, Medical and allied subjects, including Den-

tistry, during 1962 under the Technical Co-operation Scheme of the Colombo Plan.

Applicants must be employed under State Governments, local bodies or non-Governmental voluntary organisations and must normally have five years' experience.

Applicants must be graduates in their respective subjects and must not be more than 45 years of age.

Applications must be submitted in all cases to the respective State Governments by December 31, on prescribed forms obtainable from the Fellowships Section, Ministry of Health, New Delhi-2.



PROGRESS OF DANDAKARANYA PROJECT

The Progress Report of Dandakaranya Project, covering the period from August 1 to November 15, 1960, was circulated by the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation among Members of Parliament on November 29.

The report states that, to step up the reclamation programme in Dandakaranya, orders for five more fully mechanised units—comprising 75 machines—have been placed on a Japanese firm and for another 3 units—comprising 45 machines—on an American firm. The deliveries are to start from next month and are to be completed by February 1961.

Out of the 1931 families moved to Dandakaranya up to the end of October last, 1,735 families were farmers and 196 non-agriculturist. Of these, 919 farmer families had been moved to village sites and 648 families had been allotted 4,721 acres of land.

Besides, three village sites in the Pharsgaon zone, 23 village sites have been selected in Umakote (Orissa) and 33 in Parikote (Madhya Pradesh). At Jugani and Boregaon in the Pharsgaon area and at 11 sites in Umakote, construction of village houses is in progress.

The report points out that the movement of displaced persons from West Bengal camps to Dandakaran-

ya has been very slow and far behind the schedule.

AGRICULTURE

Reviewing the progress under agriculture, the Report states that up to the end of October, 3,120 acres had been covered both with rabi and kharif crops under the follow-up cultivation scheme. Mulberry cuttings were planted in the nurseries for subsequent distribution to settlers in the area. About 12.34 acres had been cropped with vegetables at the Central Horticultural Station at Dumriput.

About 19 lakh fries had been imported from Calcutta and Cuttack and stocked in 15 nursery tanks in different places in the area. In addition, 50,000 fingerlings had been transplanted to different tanks.

A poultry farm at Mana had been started. This farm would be the nucleus for the supply of birds to the other farms in the area and would also serve as a centre for training to displaced persons and tribals.

There were 33 primary and 3 secondary schools for displaced children. Over 2,800 students were receiving education in these schools. A High School had been sanctioned for Umakote.

Referring to the measures taken for the welfare of adivasis in the area, the report states that so far 3,900 acres of reclaimed land had been handed over to the District authorities for allotment to adivasis from the 25% tribal quota.

Decisions had also been taken regarding schemes for the exclusive welfare of tribals. These related to the improvement of communications, provision of drinking water supply and the setting up of a vocational training institute.

Up to the end of September 1960, an expenditure of Rs. 4.76 crores had been incurred by the Project, while the actual expenditure during 1960-61 (April to September) was Rs. 1.46 crores.

REHABILITATION OF D. Ps. FROM EAST PAKISTAN

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 19, the only camp for displaced persons from East Pakistan in Bihar at Bettiah has been closed down. This completes the programme of closing down relief camps in the Eastern Region (excluding West Bengal).

Over 80,000 D. Ps. from East Pakistan, who were admitted into camps during 1956 and 1957 in Bihar, Tripura and Orissa have been rehabilitated on land and in other occupations.

The Bihar camp once accommodated 28,000 D. Ps. all of whom have been resettled.

In all 66,000 D. Ps. from East Pakistan have been settled in Bihar. The Union Ministry of Rehabilitation had spent Rs. 621.25 lakhs till July this year on relief and rehabilitation of East Pakistan D. Ps. in the State.

The number of D. Ps. from East Pakistan who were maintained in camps and homes at one time was 10.25 lakhs. After dispersal to rehabilitation sites, their number has now come down to about 20,000 families. All of them are in camps in West Bengal.

COMPENSATION TO D. Ps.

An announcement of November 20 says that the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation has paid about Rs. 140 crores as compensation to

displaced persons from Pakistan up to September 1960.

Of this amount, over Rs. 57.75 crores have been paid in cash, about Rs. 60 crores by transfer of properties and Rs. 21.78 crores by adjustment of public dues.

The number of cases settled so far amounts to 4,71,785. These include 4,63,385 applications for compensation and 8,427 applications for rehabilitation grants.

ASSISTANCE TO DISPLACED POLITICAL SUFFERERS

According to a Press Note issued on November 20, the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation has sanctioned relief rehabilitation assistance amounting to about Rs. 12 lakhs to 706 displaced families of political sufferers from East Pakistan during the last one year. The assistance so far sanctioned includes house-building and land-purchase loans, maintenance grants and financial assistance for the education of their children.

Up to the end of October 1960, there were 1,810 applications received from political sufferers seeking assistance as displaced persons. Of these, 1,524 applications have already been scrutinised. Financial assistance has already been sanctioned in 706 cases. Of the remaining, 457 applications have been rejected and 361 applicants were advised to get their status as displaced persons determined by the appropriate authorities of the Government of West Bengal. The remaining 206 applications are under examination.

The scheme for assistance to the displaced political sufferers was introduced by the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation about 15 months ago.

EVACUEE PROPERTY

The total value of property left by displaced persons in Pakistan was approximately Rs. 500 crores, stated Shri P.S. Naskar, Union Deputy Rehabilitation Minister, in Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question on November 17.

The Deputy Minister said that the total compensation paid to displaced persons up to September 30, 1960, was Rs. 139.59 crores.

Shri Naskar laid a statement on

the Table of the House revealing that the total value of evacuee property acquired for relief and rehabilitation of D.Ps was Rs. 84.14 crores, excluding the price of 4,866 properties which had not been valued so far. The value of evacuee property in the Punjab amounting to Rs. 36.46 crores was the highest. The value of property in Delhi was Rs. 19.29 crores and in Uttar Pradesh Rs. 10.35 crores.

EVACUEE BUILDINGS IN PUNJAB

In a written answer to a question, Shri P.S. Naskar, Union Deputy Rehabilitation Minister, informed the Lok Sabha on November 22 that 76,513 evacuee properties were sold or allotted to displaced persons against their claims up to August 31 last in the Punjab.

HOUSING SCHEMES

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Shri Anil K. Chanda, Union Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, stated on November 17 that according to the reports received from the State Governments, about 88,800 houses under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme and about 47,200 houses under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme were built up to March 31, 1960, since the inception of these schemes in September 1952 and November 1954, respectively.

The Deputy Minister laid a statement on the Table of the House showing the physical targets and progress achieved under these two categories during the First and Second Five Year Plans. In the category of Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme, 42,181 houses were completed during the First Plan as against the target of 83,300 houses. During the Second Five Year Plan period, 46,575 houses had already been built against a target of 64,300.

In the category of Low Income Group Housing Scheme, the number of houses built during the First Plan was 4,365 as against the target of 22,500 while during the Second Plan 42,857 houses had been completed against a target of 59,300.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING SCHEMES

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 29, six projects for the construction of 502 houses for industrial workers, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.8 crores, were sanctioned by the Governments of Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab and Madras last month.

Of these, 180 houses will be constructed by the Governments of Maharashtra and Orissa, 236 by private employers in Maharashtra and Punjab, and 86 by a co-operative society in Madras.

The houses will be located at Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur and Sangli in Maharashtra; Bhubaneswar in Orissa; Phagwara in Punjab and Maniyakarampallyam in Madras.

HOUSES FOR HARIJANS

Shrimati Violet Alva, Union Deputy Home Minister, stated in the Rajya Sabha in reply to a question on November 30 that on advice by the Central Government, all the States had agreed to include the housing projects for Harijans in their Third Five Year Plans.

HOUSING IN PUNJAB

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 22, Shri Anil K. Chanda, Union Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, stated that, out of the Second Plan allocation of Rs. 326.45 lakhs under the Low Income Group Housing scheme, the Government of Punjab had drawn a sum of Rs. 274.79 lakhs in the first four years of the Plan, while another sum of Rs. 44.00 lakhs had been allocated to the State for 1960-61.

The Deputy Minister added that no allocations were made separately for rural or urban areas under that Scheme.

ERADICATION OF BEGGARY

According to an announcement of November 26, the Centre has suggested to the State Governments to consider establishing a home for old, infirm, diseased or disabled beggars or a work-centre for able-bodied beggars.

Under the CARE Programme, the Central Government are giving to

the States up to 50 per cent of the recurring costs of approved schemes meant to tackle the problem of beggary.

The problem of beggary is relatable to item 9 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and as such is the responsibility of the State Governments.

USE OF STEROIDS AND CONTRACEPTIVES

An announcement of November 20 says that the Government of India have accepted the recommendation of the Committee for Reviewing the Development and Research on Oral Contraceptives that pregestational steroids can be used in research for their anti-fertility effect by competent workers under rigid controlled conditions.

The Committee has also recommended that in view of the delicate hormonal balance in the human body and the harmful effects that may flow from upsetting it over a prolonged period by the administration of the steroids and in the absence of adequate evidence that their use over a prolonged period is harmless, the stage has not yet been reached to permit their sale for control of conception.

The Committee has further suggested that, on account of the available evidence of the effectiveness of these drugs in menstrual disturbances, threatened abortion and sterility in which their use was of short duration, their sale for therapeutic purposes on medical prescription may be allowed. The Drugs Controller (India) should consider the restrictions and precautions that should be imposed before permitting their sale.

According to the report, the specifications laid down by the Buildings Projects Team on the space requirements of Industrial Training Institutes will lead to an area saving of about 10% in workshops and 17% in the main buildings.

The Panel has prescribed requirements of space for buildings, workshops for various trades and other facilities. It has made recommendations on space planning and structural designing also. Floor areas for various rooms and workshop space for trainees in different trades are specified, and detailed suggestions on flooring, joinery, lighting and ventilation have been made.

INTERPRETATION OF STANDING ORDER

According to an announcement of November 16, the Government of India have notified that the Labour Court at Dhanbad shall be the court to which any employer or workman in the States of Assam, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal and the Union Territories of Manipur and Tripura may refer any question which may arise as to the application or interpretation of a Standing Order certified under the industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.

The Labour Court at Delhi shall be the court for this purpose so far as employers and workers in other parts of the country are concerned.

RURAL EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 22, the Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Shri Abid Ali, said that the scheme for setting up Employment Information and Assistance Bureaux in selected Community Development Blocks had already been put into operation. These bureaux would disseminate information regarding employment opportunities and be a link between the rural employment-seekers and the Employment Exchanges in the districts.

Labour & Employment

TRAINING-CUM-RECRUITMENT PROGRAMME

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 19, the Manpower Directorate of the Union Home Ministry has suggested that there should be a phased training-cum-recruitment programme, a sort of in-service training, for large industrial projects soon after they are approved by the Government. It has also requested for copies of training-cum-recruitment programmes as and when they are finalised.

In a note sent to the Central Ministries, the Manpower Directorate has said that steps be taken in advance by the existing units to train sufficient recruits to meet not only their own demands but also of newly developing institutions. However, it has been pointed out that where a new public enterprise finds it necessary to draw upon the experienced personnel of one or other existing units in the public sector it may take it up well in advance with the units concerned. This will enable the managements to suitably phase their programmes and to release the personnel sought.

The Manpower Directorate has emphasised that "senior engineers, technologists and experienced technicians will be in short supply for several years to come." It, however, assures that the facilities for engineering education have been expanded considerably in recent years. Therefore, there is no likelihood of shortage of fresh engineering graduates and diploma-holders in the Third Plan period, except in one or two specialised branches.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES

In view of a large number of institutes to be set up to train various craftsmen, the Buildings Projects Team of the Committee on Plan Projects had constituted a Panel to determine rational space requirements of the institutes and recommend suitable specifications for the buildings. The Panel, headed by Shri M. L. Nanda, Additional Chief Engineer, C.P.W.D., released its report on November 27.

SUGAR WAGE BOARD REPORT

The Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Shri Abid Ali, told Lok Sabha during question hour on November 30 that the Sugar Wage

Board submitted its report to Government on November 28. The recommendations of the Wage Board along with the decisions of Government thereon would be announced as soon as possible.

and Airmen's Boards in the country dealt with 337,292 cases concerning the welfare and resettlement of ex-Servicemen.

The major part of the funds was disbursed from the Post-war Reconstruction Fund which totalled Rs. 42.81 lakhs, while Rs. 13.44 lakhs were given by the various District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards. A sum of Rs. 7.44 lakhs was disbursed by the Army Headquarters and Army Establishments from the Army Central Welfare Fund and various other Welfare Funds, while sums of Rs. 47,802 and Rs. 94,635 were disbursed by the Naval Benevolent Fund Association and the I.A.F. Benevolent Association respectively.

RESETTLEMENT WORK

Since the inception of the office of the Director-General of Resettlement in July last year, the tempo of employment of ex-Servicemen has increased appreciably, and has now reached a number of 1,000 a month. Since March 31, 1958, the Directorate has been able to arrange resettlement of a total number of 23,488 ex-Servicemen—22,946 were re-employed in Government and private service through various employment exchanges, 95 were settled on land in various land colonies, 206 completed training in basic agriculture and 103 were newly admitted to these training courses. Vocational and technical training was given to 99 persons in the institutions run by the Ministry of Labour and State Governments.

A new feature of resettlement was the setting up of co-operative societies wherein ex-Servicemen could pool their resources with Government help and run small enterprises. During the two years, 70 transport co-operative societies and 62 co-operatives of a multi-purpose nature dealing in small-scale industries have been set up by ex-Servicemen throughout the country.

Government is looking after the welfare of ex-Servicemen and their families by giving them pensions, land grants, medical aid and financial assistance. Children of ex-Servicemen are given scholarships and educational stipends.



FORESTS IN GUJARAT

An announcement of November 21 says that the President has given assent to the Indian Forest (Gujarat Unification and Amendment) Bill, 1960.

With slight modifications, the Bill extends the Indian Forest Act, 1927, to the whole of Gujarat State and repeals the corresponding laws now in force in some areas of the State.

ESTATES IN ANDHRA

An announcement of November 16 says that the President has given assent to the Madras Scheduled Areas Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Regulation, 1960.

The regulation empowers the Andhra Government to pay compensation for the estates taken over in the Agency area of the State on the basis of gross annual ryotwari demand, instead of on the basis of settlement rates.

According to the Act now in force, it is necessary to undertake survey and settlement before the compensation is finally decided and paid. The present measure has been promoted by the State Government to avoid some difficulties in

regard to the conduct of survey and settlement operations.

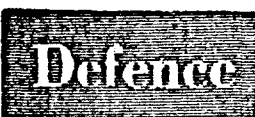
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN MADHYA PRADESH

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 24, the President has given assent to the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Relations Bill, 1960, which seeks to unify three different laws on industrial relations now in force in various parts of the Madhya Pradesh.

According to the provisions of the Bill, the representative union will be a single bargaining unit for all employees in an industry in a local area where conditions exist for recognition of such a union. Functional bifurcation has also been provided between the industrial court and the labour court.

DELHI MILK SCHEME

Shri M.V. Krishnappa, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, in a written reply informed the Lok Sabha on November 23 that nearly 60,000 litres of milk was being supplied by the Delhi Milk Scheme every day. So far 314 milk depots had been started. No milk was, however, being supplied to Meerut at present.



RESETTLEMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN

A New Delhi announcement of November 20 says that substantial work has been done by the various organisations of the Government for the welfare of ex-Servicemen and their families during the two years ending June 1960. Over

Rs. 65 lakhs were disbursed by the various Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards and from the Post-War Reconstruction Fund and welfare funds of the Army, Navy and Air Force, during this period. The District Soldiers', Sailors'

NEW CHIEF OF AIR STAFF

In a Press Note issued on November 26, the Ministry of Defence has announced that the Government of India have decided to appoint Air Marshal A.M. Engineer, D.F.C., Managing Director of the Hindustan Aircraft Limited, as Chief of the Air Staff, in succession to the late Air Marshal S. Mukerjee.

Air Marshal Engineer is expected to take charge on December 1, 1960.

T.A. AND A.A.F. ANNIVERSARY

A combined ceremonial parade of the Territorial Army and the Auxiliary Air Force was held in New Delhi on November 26.

The parade, in which about 800 officers and men of the Territorial

Army and 40 officers and airmen of the Auxiliary Air Force participated, marked the eleventh and sixth anniversaries respectively of the Territorial Army and the Auxiliary Air Force.

ZOJI LA DAY

The week-long celebrations of the famous Zoji La battle, which was successfully fought by the Para Field Regiment (Artillery) of the Parachute Brigade, was climaxed at Agra on November 21 with a ceremonial parade.

At the Zoji La (Zoji Pass) battle of 1948 in Jammu and Kashmir, the regiment created history when it occupied a gun position at a height of 11,533 feet—one of the highest ever occupied—and set up an observation post at a height of 15,600 ft.



RELIEF TO CYCLONE VICTIMS OF EAST PAKISTAN

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 25, the Government of India have despatched medicines, ready-made clothing, etc., worth Rs. 25,000 for distribution by the Government of East Pakistan to the cyclone sufferers in the affected areas.

The Government of India have also decided to release 1,000 tons of galvanized corrugated sheets to the Government of Pakistan for rebuilding damaged houses. The sheets are being sold to Pakistan at the Government controlled price of Rs. 830 per ton as against the international price of Rs. 1,100 per ton. India has, in addition, agreed to accept payment in rupees, although steel sheets are not covered by the Indo-Pakistan rupee payment agreement. Arrangements have been made to effect delivery within a fortnight.

The Indian Railways have, despite the saturation of traffic on Indian railways, agreed to facilitate the quick movement of 10,000 heads of cattle from West Pakistan to East Pakistan in order to make up for the severe damage to the cattle wealth of East Pakistan caused by the cyclone.

The People's Relief Committee of West Bengal has also sent 10,000 units of anti-cholera and anti-typhoid vaccines for the cyclone victims.

AMBASSADOR OF SUDAN

Mr. Sayed Abdel Karim Mirghani, Ambassador-designate of the Sudan, presented his credentials to the President at Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 16.

AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA

Shri Azim Husain, India's Ambassador-designate to Libya, presented his credentials to the King of Libya at Tobrouk on November 21.

UNESCO ADOPTS INDIAN RESOLUTION

The General Conference of UNESCO adopted on November 22 the Indian draft resolution recommending that UNESCO programmes for compulsory primary education in Asia should be sanctioned for a period of twenty years and funds allocated to these programmes should be substantially increased.

The resolution, which was moved by the Indian Education Minister, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, was adopted by 41 votes to none.

I.E.C. MEET CONCLUDES

International standards concerning several electrical goods were finalised by the International Electrotechnical Commission, which concluded its two-week annual meeting in New Delhi on November 18. These standards relate to a wide range of subjects, such as thermal endurance of enamelled wire, insulation resistance of solid insulating materials, unification of sizes and tolerances of round cells, crystal units, rotary water switches, toggle switches, connectors, isolators, and earthing switches.

The Delhi meet of the IEC also approved a large number of draft recommendations for circulation to member bodies for their comments.

STUDY GROUPS OF C.C.I.T.T.

Study Groups, preceding the plenary assembly of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT) commenced their deliberations in New Delhi on November 21. The Second Plenary Assembly of the CCITT would be inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru on December 8.

The Study Groups, which are 14 in number, discussed various problems of national, regional and international bearing relating to technical, operational and tariff questions on telecommunications.

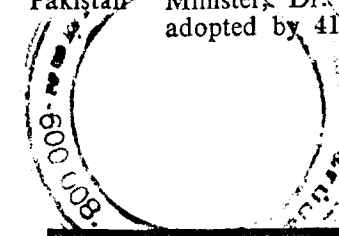
U.S. JOURNALISTS ON TOUR

Nine newspapers editors and columnists from the U.S.A. arrived in New Delhi on November 22 at the invitation of the Government of India on a three-week visit to this country. During their tour, they would see a cross-section of India's efforts and achievements in the economic field.

GERMAN CULTURAL DELEGATION

A two-member cultural delegation from the Federal Republic of Germany, consisting of an Indologist and an Archaeologist, arrived in Bombay on November 18, on a tour of the country at the invitation of the Government of India.

During their stay in the country, the two visitors will see places of in-dological and archaeological interest.



EVENTS AT A GLANCE

NOVEMBER 16 TO 30

- November 16 — An extraordinary meeting of the Mica Export Promotion Council is held in New Delhi
- 17 — Prime Minister Nehru declares open the Agricultural University at Rudrapur in Uttar Pradesh
- 18 — A four-member goodwill delegation from Morocco arrives in New Delhi
 - India signs a trade agreement with Bulgaria in Sophia for a period of one year
- 19 — Prime Minister Nehru inaugurates the Gandhi-sagar power house of the Chambal project
- 20 — Prime Minister Nehru puts into commission the Kotah barrage of the Chambal project which has completed its first phase
 - The four-day conference of State Public Health Engineers concludes in New Delhi
- 21 — The annual session of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power begins in New Delhi
 - The Central Sanskrit Board meets in Madras
- 23 — A joint communique is issued in New Delhi at the conclusion of the trade talks between India and Burma
 - The Government of India announce policy for export of manganese ore for a three-year period from January 1961
- 24 — An all-India conference of State Transport Commissioners and Controllers begins in Bombay
- 25 — The third round of talks between the Finance Ministers of India and Pakistan on the outstanding financial issues between the two countries concludes in New Delhi
- 26 — The Coal Council of India holds a meeting in New Delhi
- 28 — The Rajya Sabha assembles for the winter session
 - The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, lays the foundation stone of the Indian Law Institute in New Delhi
- 29 — Their Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko of Japan arrive in New Delhi from Bombay during the course of their State visit to India
 - The fifth meeting of the Implementation Committee, set up under the Indo-Pakistan Movable Property Agreement, begins in New Delhi



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OR

- Any other degree or diploma in Electrical, Mechanical, Civil or Telecommunication Engineering recognised by the Ministry of Education for recruitment to superior posts under Central Govt.

OR

- M.Sc. (Tech) in Radio Engineering and Electronics of College of Science and Technology, Calcutta.

OR

- Diploma in Electronics (DMIT) of Madras Institute of Technology, Madras.

(B) Army Education Corps

- An M.A./M.Sc. degree of a recognised University plus a degree/diploma in teaching ;

OR

- An M.A./M.Sc. degree of a recognised University with at least 3 years' experience of teaching in a College/University.

(C) Army Service Corps (Food Inspection Organisation).

(a) Minimum essential

M.Sc. degree in Chemistry/Biochemistry.

(b) Additional qualifications desirable

- Experience in food inspection and analysis in public health or any other recognised laboratory ;
- Research experience in either technology or biochemistry of food stuffs ;
- Knowledge of sampling/inspection procedure ;

and

- Knowledge of pest control measures.

NOTE :— Candidates who have appeared or intend to appear at an examination the passing of which would render them eligible, may also apply.

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Eligible candidates will be interviewed by a Services Selection Board. Selected candidates will undergo a twelve months' course at the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, on successful completion of which they will be granted a regular commission in the rank of Second Lieutenant. Those who are graduates in Engineering may be granted provisional Short Service Regular Commission for the period of their training, on completion of which they will be granted a Permanent Regular Commission, and an ante-date of approximately two years in accordance with the prescribed rules.

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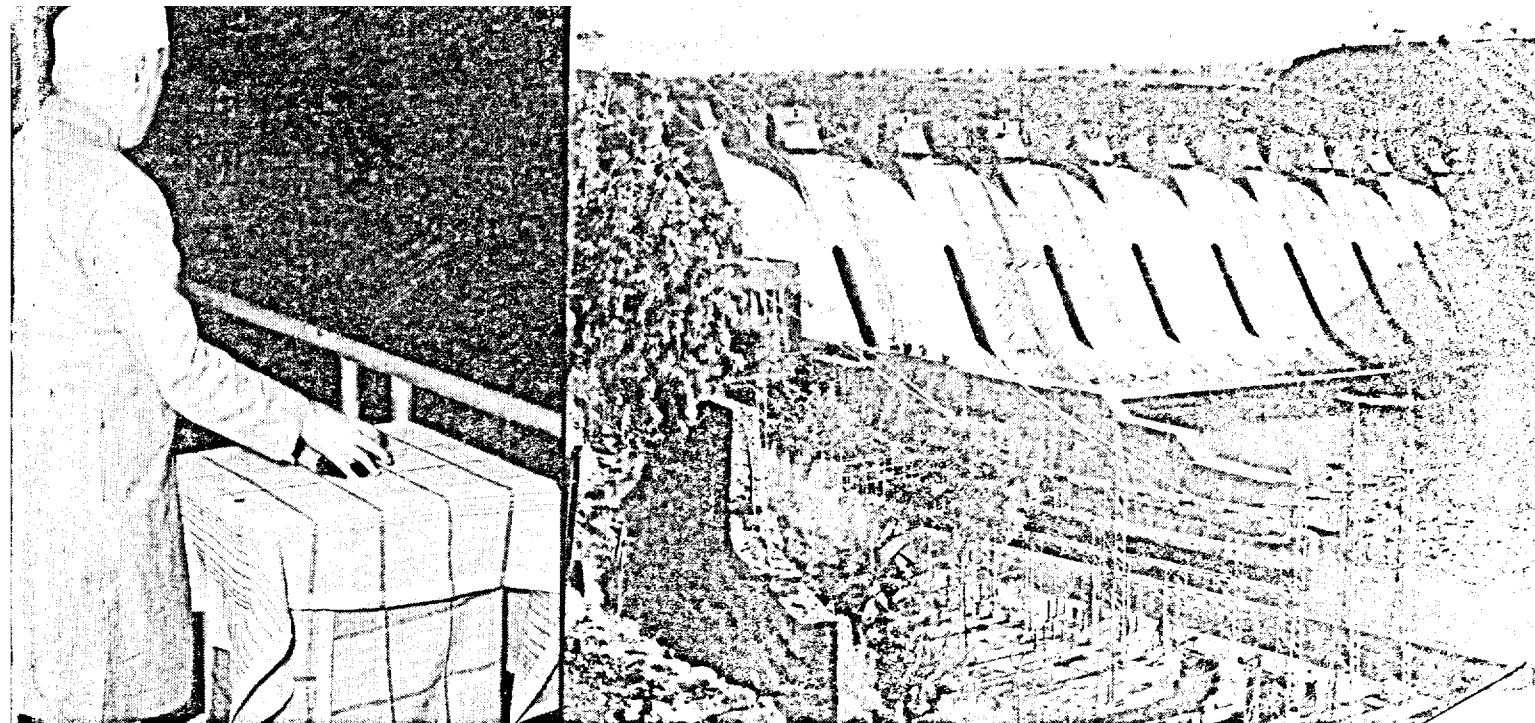
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Prime Minister Nehru inaugurating the Gandhisagar Power House of the Chambal Project on November 19

Shri S.K. Dev, Union Minister of Community Development and Co-operation, addressing the first meeting of the National Cooperative Farming Advisory Board in New Delhi on November 19

He 3 bblg.



The Indo-Pakistan Implementation Committee, set up under the Movable Property Agreement, in session at New Delhi on November 29

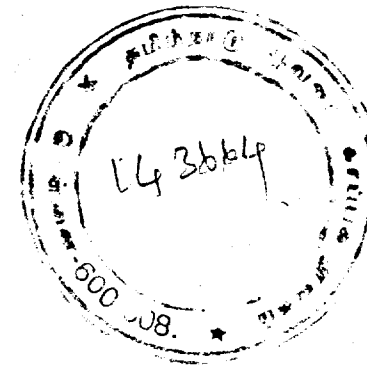




Regd. No.
D. 940

Prime Minister Nehru greeting the members of the Soviet Youth Delegation in New Delhi on November 27

Dr. B.V. Keskar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, presenting bouquets to the German film stars on the occasion of the Festival of German Films, which he inaugurated in New Delhi on November 22.



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