

PILOT PLANTS IN CSIR LABORATORIES

969. PROF. SAIYID NURUL HASAN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee headed by Dr. G. P. Kane, a retired officer of the DGTD has submitted its final report on the pilot plants in national laboratories of the CSIR; and

(b) whether Dr. G. P. Kane has now been financed to visit the U.S.A. and study the problems of pilot plants?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (PROF. V. R. V. RAO): (a) Yes, Sir, the Report is to be considered by the Government Body of the C.S.I.R. At the time of appointment as Chairman of the Plant Committee, Dr. G. P. Kane was Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of Industrial Development.

(b) Dr. Kane received an offer as a visiting Professor from the University of Pittsburgh, U.S.A., for the winter term January—April, 1970. Taking advantage of his visit to U.S.A., it was agreed that he might study how pilot plant investigations are undertaken in U.S.A. as this information may be useful to CSIR and also to look into Science Museum Organisation with a view to helping in the establishment of the Mafatlal Scientific and Technological Museum in Bombay.

The C.S.I.R. is meeting his economy class air fare to and from U.S.A.

CONSTRUCTION OF BERTHS FOR COCHIN PORT

970. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin Port Trust has prepared a scheme for the construction of four additional berths for the port;

(b) if so, what are the main details thereof;

(c) what is the estimated cost of the scheme;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have not approved the scheme; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH): (a) to (c) The Draft Fourth Five Year Plan programme submitted by the Cochin Port Trust included the constructions of four additional berths as indicated below:

	Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)
(i) One Oil Dock for handling super tankers	9.12
(ii) One Fertiliser Berth	1.60
(iii) Two General Cargo Berths	2.50

(d) and (e) The Project relating to the construction of an Oil Dock has already been approved by Government. The schemes relating to the construction of Fertiliser Berth and two general cargo berths were not finally included in the Fourth Plan programmes as they did not command a high priority in the context of the projected growth and pattern of traffic at Cochin and in view of the need to mobilise adequate resources for the high priority oil dock project connected with the expansion programme of the Cochin Refinery.

CHINESE ARMS WITH NAXALITES

971. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chinese arms have been found in possession of Naxalites in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Chinese arms are pouring unchecked into West Bengal; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to curb the entry of Chinese arms in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d) Facts are being ascertained.