

The priority dates covered during the last five years in these types are as under:

Year	reached Dates Types			
	I	II	III	IV
1963	30-12-53	15-5-45	15-12-54	1-11-54
1964	19-11-55	19-6-44	12-2-43	7-5-41
1965	31-12-47	13-10-44	14-8-42	7-8-42
1966	9-5-55	1-12-47	27-3-44	16-11-42
1967 (up to 15-6-67)	28-8-46	14-12-47	28-12-43	1-4-43

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

**TRAINING CENTRE FOR G.F.A.M. COURSE
AT BHUJ**

*631. DR. B. N. ANTANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Training Centre for G.F.A.M. Course at Bhuj, District Kutch in Gujarat; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether he has received repeated representations to open a Centre at Bhuj in view of the isolated geographical situation of Kutch and the consequent difficulties of medical men and students in this district; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that centres after centres are being opened in various district towns in Gujarat and Kutch is the only district left without such a centre?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) and (c) The requisite information has been called for from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**BUDDHIST CONVERTS FROM SCHEDULED
CASTES**

*632. SHRI GULAM NABI UNTOO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new converts to Buddhism from Scheduled Castes do not enjoy the facilities provided for the Scheduled Castes; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA): (a) and (b) According to the President's orders specifying the Scheduled Castes in the various States/Union Territories, no person who professes a religion different from the Hindu or the Sikh religion is deemed to be a member of the Scheduled Castes. The Scheduled Caste converts to Buddhism are not, therefore, lawfully entitled to be treated as members of the Scheduled Castes.

†SUPPLY OF POWERINE TO U. P.

*553. SHRI TRILOKI SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adequate arrangements for supply of powerine, the fuel necessary for

†Transferred from the 19th June, 1967.

working the tractors, have not been made in U.P.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA): (a) and (b) Marketing of powerine by Oil Companies in the Uttar Pradesh was discontinued several years ago on account of its non-availability.

†HELP TO PEASANTS FROM AGRICULTURAL REFINANCE CORPORATION

*562. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Agricultural Refinance Corporation has offered help to the peasants to develop land in Mysore State; and

(b) if so, to what extent the peasants availed of this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) The Agricultural Refinance Corporation does not give financial help direct to cultivators but refinance loans given by eligible financial institutions for approved schemes. The Corporation has so far sanctioned three schemes of agricultural development in Mysore State involving a total outlay of Rs. 861.65 lakhs of which it is committed to provide Rs. 646.24 lakhs. Actual disbursements by the land mortgage banks to cultivators participating in the schemes up to 31st March 1967 are Rs. 33.83 lakhs.

†TRANSFER OF I. B. P. FROM STEEL BROTHERS, LONDON TO U. P. C. C.

*644. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request for transfer of Indo-Burma Petroleum Com-

pany Ltd., from Steel Brothers, London to United Provinces Commercial Corporation Private Ltd., had been received by his Ministry;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what advice, if any, was given by the Ministry; and

(c) whether any representations against allowing the deal were received?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA): (a) to (c) It is understood that the Reserve Bank of India, Calcutta Branch, had received an application from the U.P.C.C. Ltd., for the purchase of shares of the Indo-Burmah Petroleum Co. Ltd. held by Messrs. Steel Brothers Ltd., U.K. and the remittance of the sale proceeds in foreign exchange. It is further understood that the Reserve Bank of India has rejected the application for the proposed purchase, and the U.P.C.C. Ltd. has since filed a suit in the High Court at Calcutta against M/s. Steel Brothers Ltd., U.K. for non-performance of the sale agreement, in which the RBI has also been impleaded as one of the defendants. The matter has thus become *sub-judice*.

†FIRE IN CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

*680. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the causes of the outbreak of fire in the North Block of the Central Secretariat New Delhi on the 11th June, 1967;

(b) the duration for which the fire lasted; and

(c) the loss caused thereby?

†Transferred from the 19th June, 1967.

†Transferred from the 22nd June, 1967.

†Transferred from the 23rd June, 1967.