

look into. As I said, the matter is still under investigation. Unless and until I am sure, I would not like to give the name of the country.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to know from the Minister whether any assessment of the arms manufactured so far has been made. How long has the factory been in existence, how much arms had been produced and where they have gone to—whether any trace has been made of the places to which they have gone—are the things that we would like to know.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: The factory seems to be working for the last six months; that has been ascertained. As for the question where the arms have gone, as I said, the matter is under investigation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: One question, Sir. It is very important.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everything you say is very important but other things are also important. Mr. Bhargava, please put your question.

REMOVAL OF LORD IRWIN'S STATUE

*97. **SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken regarding the removal of the statue of Lord Irwin located in front of the Parliament Building Delhi, to the National Museum;

(b) whether any action has been taken against the culprits who disfigured this statue recently; and

(c) whether it is proposed to put up some other statue in its place?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) No decision has

yet been taken regarding the removal of this statue.

(b) A case under section 427 I.P.C. has been registered against the persons involved in disfiguring the statue. It is under investigation.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know what steps have been taken by the Government on the policy statement made by the hon. Prime Minister some time back that these British statues will be gradually removed to the museum?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: A number of statues have been already removed and at the moment there are only eight statues in the city of Delhi.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know what is the programme and how long will it take to remove all the British statues which are at present in New Delhi and Old Delhi?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: The intention is to remove them but the question is only of time and space. The moment we get space in some of the museums we will remove them.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether any suggestions have been received for putting up an alternative statue at the place where there is Lord Irwin's statue at present?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Not to my knowledge.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know whether it is the policy of the Government not to remove these statues unless they are disfigured?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: The Prime Minister has categorically stated in Lok Sabha that they are to be removed.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: But when? Seventeen years have passed after independence and the statues are still standing there. And the Government is not in a position to protect these statues. They have been disfigured and it is a shame on the part of the Government.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Some people take the law into their own hands and they disfigure the statues. We are trying to protect them.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government have given an undertaking to the British Government that these statues will not be removed and that is why their removal is being delayed?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: No, Sir.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Keeping in view the . . .

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Let the Minister deny that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said 'No'.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Keeping in view the public sentiment against these statues and the fact that all political parties, that everyone in India is against the statues—because it reminds us of a Government which . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your question.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Keeping in view the public opinion against the statues, when we disfigure them we lose the sympathy of the foreign countries. So is it not better for the Government to remove them at once? And how much time will it take to remove them all over the country?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: As I said the Prime Minister has made a categorical statement. Our decision is there and we are trying to remove them.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: The Deputy Minister said that he has been trying to remove them. When did this effort begin and what progress has been made because no statue in Delhi has been removed so far?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: As I stated earlier, a number of them have been removed already and only eight are remaining at present in the city of Delhi. We are trying to remove them too. As soon as we get some space in the museums or somewhere else, we shall remove them.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: How soon will he take steps to remove them?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: It will not take long.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: There is enough space in the various museums of the country. Will it take another seventeen years for the Government to remove and lodge these statues in those museums? Why should there be such delay? There is enough space in the various museums in the country. It is only a lame excuse, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Perhaps there may be a difference of opinion.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: In case this statue is removed, may I know whether the Government will consider the demand of the Indian people that a statue of Baba Saheb Ambedkar, architect of the Indian Constitution, should be placed there?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI G. MURAHARI: I would like to know from the Government whether they are examining a proposal to have a museum for British imperialism in which all these statues could be lodged?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN: Would it not be wise even at this stage, in view of all that is being said, for the Government to take us into their con-

fidence and tell us they have a programme which will be completed, say, within two years, three years, within some definite period?

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: They have no programme at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has said that he will do it as expeditiously as possible.

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN: All this heat and indignation comes because there is so much delay. I personally do not think it is a very important thing—where the statues are—but if they are to be removed, why can't the Government take us into confidence and say that within two years, three years or four years they will remove them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They can't take you into confidence because they themselves don't know.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: As I said we will not take long but we cannot give any definite time limit. It won't be two or three years it will be much earlier.

STUDY OF RESEARCH PROGRESS IN NATIONAL LABORATORIES

*98. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Survey and Planning unit of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has made any study of the research progress in the various National Laboratories; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of this study?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to know if the hon. Minister is aware that the 'Statesman' of

March 16 has published what was called the Report of the Study Team constituted by the Ministry?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: Well, Sir, there have been certain findings by this unit that we have set up but there has not been yet a formal Report.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: What are the main features of the findings made by this study team?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: The findings are rather detailed. This unit considered three main questions: (1) the proportion of recurring research expenditure on different items, their trend and the relation of recurring to capital expenditure; (2) trend of expenditure on some of the auxiliary services; and (3) trend of cost per scientist and the structure of cost per scientist.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to a report today about the opinion of a Professor who has told certain M.Ps yesterday here that there is too much of politics, too much interplay of politics in the National Laboratories and no research as such was being undertaken and, if so, may I know whether any steps are being taken by the Ministry to weed out politics and political elements and political considerations from these Laboratories?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: I am sorry to say I find politics in every sphere of our life but the one place where there is less politics is our Laboratories.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I want to know at what rate expenditure in these laboratories has been increasing and whether the quantity of the work turned out has been having any relation to the expenditure incurred during these few years.

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: Well, Sir, expenditure has increased considerably and results also have been very great. Research has increased; more projects