

year is recommended for the succeeding years also. Therefore, once a man gets into the list it is always possible for him to get the quotas later on unless something is found against him.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: In view of the Minister's admission that there are ghost quotas and there is blackmarket in stainless steel, may I know whether the Government will consider the feasibility of stopping the allotment of steel quota on the recommendations of the State Governments and set up its own machinery to enquire into the genuineness of the allegations?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am afraid it will be an impossible task. We have to depend upon the State machinery.

*560. [The questioner (Shri M. P. Bhargava) was absent. For answer, vide col. 4166 infra.]

DISCONTINUANCE OF A. C. C.

*561. **SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that A.C.C. is being discontinued in various High Schools and a common course for boys and girls is being introduced in its place;

(b) if so, what is the reason for this change; and

(c) what are the details of the proposed course?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN): (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: How much time will it take? What is the necessity for considering this matter just now?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN: We are discussing this problem with the Ministry of Defence and I cannot say definitely what time it will take. The object is to have a synthesis of all the good points in the present schemes about physical education, the National Discipline Scheme, the A.C.C. and the others combined together.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: There are four schemes prevalent in the country now, the A.C.C., the N.C.C., the Scouts and Guides and the National Discipline Scheme. Will the Government make some sort of integrated course for all these and introduce such a course which will not overlap?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN: Yes Sir; Government is already working in that direction and the Emergency Integrated Scheme of Physical Education and the National Discipline Scheme have been in operation for some time and we are discussing the matter with the Ministry of Defence and I think they will also soon agree to have an integrated scheme.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: What is the strength of the A.C.C. Boys and Girls in the whole country?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN: I want notice, Sir.

EDUCATION OF MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

*562. **SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of an observation made recently by Professor N. T. Birkett, an Educational Expert from U.K., in Patiala to the effect that little attention was paid to the education of mentally handicapped in India; and

(b) if so, whether any estimate has been made of the number of the handicapped persons in India?