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FORMATION OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES
IN THE ANDAMANS

*345. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Andaman Congress Committee had, in its resolution on the preparation of the Third Five Year Plan of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands which was submitted to Government, demanded formation of two Central Co-operative Societies in the Nicobar Islands to take over the trade of the Islands from the present firms; and
- (b) if so, what are the reasons for not accepting this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT): (a) Yes.

(b) Government consider that the interests of the Nicobarese at the present stage would be best served by entrusting the trade in these Islands to the State Trading Corporation.

CLOSING OF THIRD GENERATOR OF POWER PLANT AT ROURKELA

- *348. Dr. A. SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the third generator of the power plant at Rourkela had to be completely closed down due to the main cubicle on the 33 k.v. Busbar having been burnt down;
- (b) if so, what is the extent of loss involved; and
- (c) who are responsible for this accident?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH):
(a) The generator was shut down only for a few minutes.

- (b) There was no appreciable loss in production. The damaged part was replaced by the contractor.
- (c) Such failures are not uncommon in any electrical installation. The

Contractor who supplied and erected the plant is responsible for replacing all parts which fail or show signs of defect within one year of the plant going into operation.

IMPACT OF PRIZE BONDS SCHEME ON SMALL SAVINGS SCHEMES

*349. SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prize Bonds Scheme has made any adverse impact on the Small Savings Schemes; and
 - (b) if so, in what manner?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

REPRESENTATIONS AGAINST REVISED SCALES OF PAY OF ASSISTANTS

*355. SHRI BANSI LAL: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received recently any representations from Assistants or any organisations of the Central Government Employees against the revised scales of pay of Assistants as announced by Government on the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission;
- (b) if so, what action has been taken by Government thereon; and
- (c) whether Government's decision in the matter will be communicated to the Assistants before the last date of the election of the revised scales of pay expires?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FIN-ANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representations are under careful consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir. The time limit for exercising option has already been extended.

GRANT OF TACCAVI LOANS IN THE ANDAMANS

- *356. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:
- (a) what was the amount provided for the grant of taccavi loans in the Andamans during the year 1959-60;
- (b) what is the amount actually disbursed so far; and
- (c) what is the number of applications still pending with the Andamans Administration for the grant of this loan?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT): (a) Rs. 35,000.

- (b) Rs. 34,935.
- (c) No application for the grant of taccavi loans is pending with the Andamans Administration.

ARREST OF AKALIS IN DELHI

- *358. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of Akalis who were arrested in Delhi in connection with the Punjabi Suba agitation during the months of September and October, 1960; and
- (b) out of them, how many have so far been released on tendering apology?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT): (a) 841.

(b) 235.

THEFT OF SPIKES BELONGING TO MILITARY FARM AT JUBBULPORE

*362. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 762 in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th September, 1960 and state whether the police authorities have since filed the case in regard to the theft of spikes belonging to Military Farm at Jubbulpore, in the Court?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DE-FENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): Yes, Sir,

SETTING UP OF A SHOE MANUFACTURING PLANT

- *364. Shri P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a shoe manufacturing plant is to be set up by a Czech firm in India;
- (b) if so, what are the details of the agreement; and
- (c) when and where it is likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH):
(a) No, Sir. The Government, however, is setting up a boot manufacturing plant at an Ordnance Factory, the necessary plant and equipment for which is being obtained from M/s. Kovo of Czechoslovakia by the State Trading Corporation.

- (b) The Agreement with M/s. Kovo for procurement of necessary plant has been concluded by the State Trading Corporation and not the Defence Ministry. According to this agreement the firm has undertaken to ship the boot plant by the end of the year, the cost of the plant being Rs. 2,92,018.
- (c) The boot plant is being set up at Harness and Saddlery Factory, Kanpur and is expected to go into production by the middle of 1961.

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*365. SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state: