

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS) : As a result of the experience gained in the bye-election from the South-West Calcutta Parliamentary Constituency, the Election Commission is considering whether it would be worthwhile and administratively feasible to adopt the system of photographed identity cards in any city at the next General Elections, but has not come to any conclusion.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, what the Calcutta experience cost the Government?

SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS: The cost was Rs. 2,61,217., which works out to Rs. 1-22 per identity card.

SHRI B. P. BASAPPA SHETTY: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have to bear the cost of identity cards or the voters have to bear it?

SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS: The voters did not bear it; the cost was shared between the Government of West Bengal and the Government of India,

#### **TARGET PRACTICE SHOOTING RANGES IN DELHI**

\*224. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of target practice shooting ranges in the Union Territory of Delhi and the places where they are located; and

(b) whether Government have taken adequate precautions to ensure that (i) no casualty of cattle or men takes place; and (ii) the cultivation in the neighbouring areas does not suffer?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA) : (a) There are five ranges in the Union Territory of Delhi. Of these three are Small Arms Classification Ranges and two are Field Firing Ranges. Except for the Tughlakabad Field

Firing Range, all other ranges are on Government land.

(b) (i) and (ii) Standing Orders provide for the clearance of the range area prior to commencement of firing, posting of sentries, fixing of red flags and notice boards on roads and tracks leading to the range area. There are in addition local orders for each range which contain detailed instructions with special reference to local conditions. In the case of Field Firing Ranges, clearance work is done by local civil authorities and firing is started only after clearance certificates are obtained from them to the effect that the area is clear of all human beings and livestock.

As far as possible, firing on private land is restricted to harvesting season but where any damage to crops takes place, compensation is paid as laid down in the Manoeuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, no reply has been given to part (a) of my question. May I know, Sir, the names of the places where these ranges are located? However, there is a range in Mehrauli area near Chhatarpur. Is the Government aware that every year at this range many heads of cattle are killed during practice and at times even men have been shot and killed, and if a complaint is made, people are taken to task? I should like to know whether this information is correct.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: As far as shooting ranges are concerned, there are five, viz., Basant Range, Nicholson Range, Grenade Firing Range Mehpalpur, President's Bodyguard Range and Tughlakabad Range.

So far as part two of his question is concerned, according to the information available, only 2 people were killed and 10 injured. So far as the question of injuries to cattle is concerned, only one buffalo was injured and a few sheep were injured. That is about all\*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: A little while ago the hon. Deputy Minister started that full precautions were taken to see that no casualty took place, but now in his reply says that some people were killed and a few heads of cattle injured. May I know, Sir, how these two things are reconciled?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Accidents always do happen. In spite of all the precautions taken, some people do weep in and then they suffer for their acts.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know, Sir, whether any damages were paid for the people killed or for the cattle injured?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Sir, in case they get injuries due to their own behaviour—for example, people get injured when in certain cases they enter the range after the firing has finished to pick up these scrap metals and they get injured while going back—in such cases when they are injured due to their own acts, no damage is paid.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know, Sir, as to who decides whether it was the fault of the people who entered the prohibited area or the fault of the army who did not give them due notice?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: Due notice is always given.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: May I know, Sir, when these two people were killed.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I have not got the dates. However, one was killed at Basant Range and the other was killed at Tughlakabad Range.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: I want to know the dates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has given you the places where they were killed. The dates are not available.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Can he give the year or the month?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Last year.

\*225. [The questioner (Shri P. Ramamurti) was absent. For answer, vide col. 916 infra.]

“गज़ेटियर आफ इंडिया : इंडियन यूनियन”

\*२२६. श्री राम साहय : क्या वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) “गज़ेटियर आफ इंडिया : इंडियन यूनियन” को तैयार करने के सिलसिले में कितना कार्य अब तक हो चुका है और कब तक उसके पूरा होने की आशा है; और

(ख) इसे कितनी जिल्दों में प्रकाशित करने की योजना है ?

†† “GAZETTEER OF INDIA; INDIAN UNION”

\*226. SHRI RAM SAHAI: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the work so far done in the preparation of the “Gazetteer of India: Indian Union” and the time by which, it is expected to be completed; and

(b) the number of volumes in, which it is proposed to be published?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (DR. MONO MOHAN DAS): (a) and (b) The “Gazetteer of India: Indian Union” will be published in four volumes. The first volume of the series is under preparation. The entire work is expected to be completed during the Third Five Year Plan.

‡[वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य उपमंत्री (डा० मन मोहन दास) :

(क) और (ख) “गज़ेटियर आफ इंडिया : इंडियन यूनियन” चार जिल्दों में छाना जायेगा। इस सीरीज़ की पहली जिल्द तैयार हो रही है। ऐसी उम्मीद है कि सारा

†[ ] English translation.

‡[ ] Hindi translation.