

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) 335 fencing posts.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The theft was reported to the civil police authorities who recovered 257 fencing posts and handed them over to the Military Farm. The case is now in the hands of the civil police.

MINERAL ADVISORY BOARD

*400. DR. R. B. GOUR: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mineral Advisory Board at its last meeting held on August 3 and 4, 1960 at Bhopal considered the report of the Mineral Beneficiation Committee;

(b) if so, with what results; and

(c) when Government are going to finalise their conclusions on the report?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL
(SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) (a) Yes, Sir. The meeting of the Mineral Advisory Board was held on the 3rd August, 1960 only.

(b) The Board considered the various recommendations made by the Committee and expressed its views on them except on two items relating to establishment of a National Ore Dressing Laboratory and evolving of a positive mineral policy for which the Board suggested formation of ad hoc committee to go into the matter in greater detail.

(c) The views expressed by the Board and its recommendations are under consideration of the Government and decisions will be taken as soon as possible.

OIL FIELD FOUND NEAR AGRA

{ SHRI M. S. GURUPADA
*401. { SWAMY:
{ SHRI RAM SAHAI:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agra police have recently discovered an oil-field near Balkeshwar on the bank of the Jamuna; and

(b) if so, what are its potentialities for oil prospecting?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL
(SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

On receipt of a message from the State authorities on 8th August, 1960, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission were asked to investigate the alleged oil show on Jamuna Bank near Balkeshwar Temple about five miles from Agra. Two Technical Officers of the Commission visited the site and collected samples of sand and oil. The results of the examination of these samples and the geological associations of the oil show are such that the occurrence of natural hydrocarbons in the area appears to be improbable. The matter will be investigated further by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission after the rains.

SMUGGLING OF GOLD BY SHIP "RUTH EVERETT"

*402. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Calcutta Customs authorities have seized 8,320 tolas of gold from the ship "Ruth Everett";

(b) whether it is a fact that some gold was seized from persons who were on board the ship; and

(c) what action Government have taken against the culprits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Up to the 16th August, 1960, 29,909 tolas of gold had been seized from the ship M. V. "Ruth Everett" or from the crew of the ship. Details of the seizures are shown in the statement which is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XXX, Annexure No. 28.]

(c) The case is under investigation by the Calcutta Customs authorities. Some members of the crew have been arrested. Action against the vessel under section 167 (12A) of the Sea Customs Act is under consideration.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION ESTABLISHMENT IN KERALA

*403. SHRI JOSEPH MATHEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Defence Production Establishment in the State of Kerala; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to establish a major wood working factory in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal.

GOLD SMUGGLING

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

(a) the number of cases of gold smuggling into India which were detected during the last year; and

(b) the total quantity of gold confiscated during the same period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE, (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a)

*49.

(b) 24,233 tolas and 38 sovereigns.

†CENTRAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS SCHEME

*233. SHRI DAYALDAS KURRE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many students have been sent abroad under the Central Overseas Scholarship Scheme so far in the year 1960-61; and

(b) what are the names of the countries where these students have been sent?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) None; as the Scheme has not been in operation after 1958-59.

(b) Does not arise.

†PASSAGE GRANTS FOR SCHEDULED CASTES ETC.

*234. SHRI DAYALDAS KURRE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expenditure proposed to be incurred in the year 1960-61 on passage grants for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes; and

(b) what will be the number of those students?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Rs. 25,000 approximately.

(b) Seven students will be availing of passage grants this year.

†PROFITS FROM THE EXPLOITATION OF IRON ORE DEPOSITS IN MADHYA PRADESH

*279. SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madhya Pradesh have

†Postponed from the 18th August, 1960.

†Postponed from the 18th August, 1960.