

which includes the establishment of an engineering college at Warangal, is under consideration of the Government. The proposed engineering college at Warangal is expected to start functioning during the academic year 1959-60 with an annual admission capacity of 250 students.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know what preparations have so far been made for seeing that the college starts from the academic year 1959-60?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The question of preparations does not arise till the matter is finally decided.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: The hon. Minister has given out that the engineering college will be started in 1959-60. If the decision has not been taken so far, how is it physically possible to start the engineering college with an intake of 250 students in the month of June itself?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: As soon as a decision is taken, the necessary steps will also be taken and it is my hope that the college will start functioning by August, 1959.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Are we to understand that the buildings and other things will automatically rise with the decision itself? And when is this decision likely to be taken?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The decision may be taken almost any day. So far as the buildings are concerned, the hon. Member may know that colleges have started with improvised buildings.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister is aware that a committee has been constituted in Warangal and it has donated a large piece of land for this college?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I am aware of all the interest taken in this question and I am very anxious that

it should start soon, but I cannot go ahead till the final decision is taken.

ELECTION PETITIONS

***607. SHRI P. A. SOLOMON:** Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of election petitions against elections to the Parliament and the States' Assemblies pending before Election Tribunals at the end of November 1958; and

(b) the number of such petitions pending in High Courts and the Supreme Court separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): (a) As on the 15th December 1958, 57 election petitions (8 in respect of Lok Sabha and 49 in respect of Legislative Assemblies of various States) relating to the General Elections of 1957 were pending before Election Tribunals. These include 19 petitions remanded by the High Courts.

(b) 34 election petitions relating to the General Elections of 1957 (6 in respect of Lok Sabha and 28 in respect of Legislative Assemblies) are pending before the High Courts and 9 election petitions (2 in respect of Lok Sabha and 7 in respect of Legislative Assemblies) are pending before the Supreme Court.

SHRI P. A. SOLOMON: May I know what steps have been taken by the Government in order to speed up the disposal of the pending cases?

SHRI A. K. SEN: So far as the Tribunals are concerned, they have disposed of their work with remarkable speed after the 1957 elections. So far as the High Courts and the Supreme Court are concerned, it is a problem concerning not only the election petitions but it is a much larger problem.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: What was the total number of election petitions after the General Elections to

the local assemblies and to the Lok Sabha? What is the total number actually filed?

SHRI A. K. SEN: Sir, I want notice.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: Out of the total number of petitions disposed of, how many were confirmed and how many set aside?

SHRI A. K. SEN: I would require separate notice.

TRANSFER OF SALAR JUNG MUSEUM TO UNION GOVERNMENT

*608. { SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:
SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI:

Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed to hand over the Salar Jung Museum to the Union Government; and

(b) if so, at which place the Union Government propose to locate the Museum?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hyderabad.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: To what extent has the State Government played its part in the matter of handing over this museum to the Central Government and may I know whether anything is reserved by the State Government in the matter of ownership and all that?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: There has been complete co-operation from the State Government and we are

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri P. S. Rajagopal Naidu.

awaiting a decree of the High Court and as soon as the decree is received, the property will pass to the Central Government and this has been done in consultation with the State Government.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Why has this matter gone to the High Court for adjudication?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: It has to go to the High Court, because the suit regarding this estate has been pending for a long time. Till the succession suit is settled, neither the State Government nor the Government of India can come into the picture.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know the financial implications of the Government taking over this museum, particularly the cost of actual maintenance of it?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I cannot give the complete financial implications at this stage. But the immediate implication may cost about Rs. 10 lakhs from the Government of India for a new building for the museum. As regards annual recurring expenditure, it is difficult to give the figure. As present the museum has an income of Rs. 2 lakhs from visitors' passes and the present expenses are met from out of this amount. But it is possible that with the reorganising of the museum and giving of slightly better terms and conditions of service to the employees, the expenses may go up a little and we have made a request to the Hyderabad Government to share it if any deficit should occur.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Is it a fact that the successors of Nawab Salar Jung Bahadur have agreed to donate a piece of land in Hyderabad and also a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs for the construction of a building?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The Estate Committee agreed to give a piece of land and also that a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs will be donated. It is part