

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: It is being examined.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will the examination take long and will there be any decision in the immediate future?

(No reply)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES OF SMALL-SCALE MINE OWNERS

***48. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR:** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of the Geological Survey of India has recommended the formation of co-operative societies of small-scale mine-owners; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government on that suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Necessary instructions have already been issued to the State Governments to give encouragement to co-operative mining in the matter of grant of mineral concessions.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: May I know, Sir, in regard to what minerals these instructions have been issued to the State Governments to give encouragement to co-operative societies of small-scale mine owners?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: For the issue of mining leases Government have pointed out to the State Governments the advisability of having a policy of giving encouragement to co-operative societies for all these minerals. There is no particular mineral which has been specified.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know how many co-operative societies have been formed up till now?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: That I am afraid I cannot say.

RECONSTITUTION OF THE INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS

***49. SHRI M. BASAVAPUNNAIAH:** Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reconstitute the Indian Council for Cultural Relations;

(b) if so, what is that proposal; and

(c) what are the functions of the Council?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) A Committee has been set up by the Governing Body of the Council to consider possible changes in its constitution.

(b) The matter is still under the consideration of the Committee and it is not possible to say at this stage what proposals are likely to be made by the Committee.

(c) The functions of the Council are to establish, revive and strengthen cultural ties between India and other countries.

SHRI M. BASAVAPUNNAIAH: May I know, Sir, the terms of reference of the Commission you have appointed?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: Not a Commission—it is a Committee. The Committee has been told that the aims and objects of the Council should remain unchanged, but the rules and regulations should be revised to facilitate the work of the Council. In particular, it should ensure that members of the general assembly are given more representation on the Governing Body of the Council and that the Council be given greater degree of freedom from direct control by Government.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Is it a fact that you have suggested to the Committee to recommend certain changes in the

constitution of the general assembly itself?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: There may be certain changes which will arise out of this; in certain cases it may be necessary to make a slight change in the constitution to give it better autonomy.

DR. R. B. GOUR: In what direction are these changes to be made?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I have already said it is in the direction of greater autonomy.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Have you suggested to the Committee that officials should not be there in this thing as officials of this Council, and also foreign personnel?

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Only Ministers should be there.

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The hon. Member asks two questions which are quite different from one another. So far as the officials are concerned, the number will naturally be kept at a minimum. So far as any representatives of any other countries in the Council are concerned, the Council may have to take policy decisions on relations between one country and another and it is not very desirable to have the association of representatives of other countries.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: In reply to part (c), the hon. Minister said that the function was to strengthen the cultural relations between India and other countries. Does it mean that as far as the strengthening of cultural relations between the States are concerned, the work is delegated to another body, or the same body is to be given this work?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: You mean within the country?

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Yes.

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: That is not directly the concern of the Indian

Council for Cultural Relations. But when we have people from different regions and different States meeting for discussing cultural questions, we expect that it will also have a very beneficial effect on internal relations.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether Parliament has also got some representatives on this Council for Cultural Relations?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: A large number of Members of Parliament who are distinguished men otherwise are also represented in the Council.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: For the necessities of Parliament, I ask, has Parliament got any representative on the Council?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: So far Parliament as such is not represented on the Council.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Are women represented on the Council?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The hon. Member should know that in a cultural body women will certainly be represented.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, if there is a proposal to democratise the administration and working of the constitution of the Cultural Council?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I have already answered that question.

*50. [The questioner (Shri M. Valiulla) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 226-27 infra.]

STATEMENT OF KERALA CHIEF MINISTER REGARDING THREAT OF CIVIL WAR

*51. **SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sri E. M. S. Namboodiripad, Chief Minister of Kerala, while speaking at