

request for extension of the principle of the Government letter, dated 1-8-1956 to "skilled" workers is not a mere technical point but a substantive matter for decision involving financial implications. This should be capable of solution by negotiation and discussion.

INCOME-TAX CASES PENDING DISPOSAL IN CHHINDWARA, SAUGAR AND JUBBULPORE CIRCLE

*724. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with each of the Income-tax Officers, Chhindwara, Saugar and Jubbulpore Circle for the assessment years 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58;

(b) what are the reasons for non-disposal of these cases;

(c) in how many cases each of the aforesaid Income-tax Officers for each of the above-mentioned assessment years has adjourned the cases *sine die* without giving any reason for such adjournment; and

(d) whether it is a fact that only such cases are generally adjourned in which advance tax has been recovered in excess?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) The information asked for is not readily available. It is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

(b) to (d). For collecting information on these points, all the assessment records of cases which remained undisposed of by each of the Income-tax Officers at Chhindwara, Saugar and Jubbulpore during the four years 1954-55 to 1957-58 will have to be scrutinised. The time and labour involved in this process will not be commensurate with the results achieved.

IRON ORE DEPOSITS IN KERALA

*725. SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state whether iron ore deposits have been located in the State of Kerala and if so, in which region?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): Yes, Sir. A few occurrences of iron ore at Kachcheri near Calicut (Kozhikode) and Palghat were reported by the Geological Survey of India during the field season 1956-57. Magnetite quartzites are also known to occur within the biotite schists in the same area.

LICENCES FOR IMPORT OF STEEL

*729. SHRI P. A. SOLOMON: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications submitted by private parties from the State of Kerala for issue of licences to import steel during the last one year; and

(b) how many of such applications were granted by Government and import licences issued?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). One hundred applications were received during the period April, 1957 to March, 1958 out of which 56 were accepted and Import Licences issued.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF FILES IN A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

*730. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 67 in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th August, 1958, and state the date on which the fire which destroyed the files relating to grant of scholarships to the students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes occurred and what action has been taken by Government to reconstruct the files?