

raids involving damage to and looting of public and private property and the killing of a trolley man;

(c) Reinforcements of armed police have been sent to the affected areas. The Assam Disturbed Areas Act giving enhanced powers to the Police has also been extended to the North Cachar Hills by the State Government;

(d) (i) The Governor of Assam through the Commissioner, and (ii) the Chief Commissioner.

(e) Yes.

(f) Does not arise.

PROVISION OF FUNDS FOR ROAD DEVELOPMENT IN THE AUTONOMOUS DISTRICTS OF ASSAM DURING THE SECOND PLAN PERIOD

*257. SHRI J. B. HAGJER: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the amount provided for under article 275 of the Constitution for the development of roads in the Autonomous Districts of Assam during the Second Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA): A provision of Rs. 4.05 crores has been made for the purpose.

PRESERVATION OF KACHARI KING'S RUINS AT DIMAPUR

*258. SHRI J. B. HAGJER: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act of 1904 applies to the Kachari Kings' ruins at Dimapur;

(b) if not, why not; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, why no steps are being taken by Government for the preservation of those monuments?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL

AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As far as Government are aware the Monuments are being maintained and necessary repairs are being carried out but a fresh enquiry is being made to find out the present condition of the monuments.

*259. [Transferred to the 6th May, 1958.]

DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL MUSEUM

*260. DR. NIHAR RANJAN RAY: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the seven phases of development of the National Museum as recommended by the Gwyer Committee and accepted by Government, are due to be completed by the end of 1958, and that not even half of the development process has so far been covered;

(b) whether it is a fact that of the seven keepers of the seven proposed Departments, only two have so far been appointed, and that no Director is yet in view though planning of and acquisitions for the Museum have been going on; and

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Central Advisory Board of Museums and whether they are prepared to hand over the management and administration of the National Museum to autonomous board free from the direct control of the Ministry.

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

STATEMENT

The Gwyer Committee had recommended in 1946 that the National

Museum should be developed in three stages and a beginning was made in 1948 by setting up a nucleus Museum in the Rashtrapati Bhavan with some of the objects returned from the London Exhibition. The construction of the buildings of the Museum and its full development according to plan had to be deferred on account of financial stringency and it was proposed instead that the scheme might be slowed down and parts of it postponed. According to the revised scheme, it was proposed to build the National Museum in 8 stages commencing from the financial year 1950-51. The continued financial stringency did not permit the implementation of even this modified plan but a beginning was made with the building of the National Museum in May, 1955.

The Museum has at present the following departments besides the Secretariat:—

1. Archaeology.
2. Art.
3. Numismatics and Epigraphy.
4. Chemical Preservation.

Two keepers have been appointed. As no suitable Indian was immediately available, negotiations are in hand for obtaining a Director from abroad on deputation for a period of 2-3 years. It will thus be seen that the delay in the implementation of the scheme is due to lack of funds, absence of suitable personnel, problems of accommodation and paucity of exhibits.

The recommendations of the Central Advisory Board of Museums are still under examination and a final decision will be taken soon.

DEVELOPMENT OF MUSEUMS

*261. DR. NIHAR RANJAN RAY: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the amount of two crores of rupees provided under the Second Five Year

Plan for the improvement and development of museums, nothing has so far been spent; if so, why;

(b) whether it is a fact that several applications for grants enclosing schemes for improvement and expansion of museums have been received by Government, and that those applications have not yet been considered and hence no grants made; and

(c) whether Government have any plan or scheme under consideration for improvement of the organisation and administration of the various museums organised and maintained by Government and public bodies, and for effecting co-ordination in their activities?

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

(a) and (b). The amount of Rupees two crores originally provided in the Second Five Year Plan was reduced to Rupees one crore in 1957-58. An expenditure of Rs. 77,280 has been sanctioned so far in response to applications. It was not possible to sanction more substantial grants as the requests were in some cases incomplete and in others without any provision of matching contributions by the applying authorities.

(c) Yes, Sir, the whole question is being reconsidered.

*262. [Postponed to the 8th May, 1958.]

*263. [This question has been transferred to the list of questions for written answers for the 6th May, 1958, where it appears as Unstarred Question No. 21-B.]

SHIFTING OF THE I.A.S. TRAINING SCHOOL TO MUSSOORIE

*264. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations are under way for purchase of buildings at Mussoorie for housing