

(ii) In addition, the stock of each item of stores is verified once a year under the supervision of the Audit Officer/Board of officers of the area/unit concerned; and

(iii) Stock Verification Register is audited by the Local Audit Officer quarterly.

ACCEPTANCE OF RUSSIAN CREDIT OFFER FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS

*440. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian offer of 500 million roubles of credit for machinery for certain projects made by Russia last year has been accepted; and

(b) if so, what has been done in furtherance of that agreement so far?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH):

(a) and (b). Yes; copies of the Agreement dated the 9th November, 1957 between the Government of India and the Government of the U.S.S.R. were placed in the Parliament Library on the 26th November 1957. Subsidiary contracts between the Indian Authorities and the Soviet Organisations concerned, for the preparation of the detailed Project Reports on the Projects covered by the Agreement, have been finalised.

COMPLAINTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE MISMANAGEMENT IN LADY NOYCE DEAF AND DUMB SCHOOL

*444. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state the number of complaints received in connection with the mismanagement and indiscipline prevailing in the Lady Noyce Deaf and Dumb School from the parents of deaf and dumb in 1956-57?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): During 1956-57, only two

complaints about mismanagement and indiscipline in the Lady Noyce School for the Deaf, New Deihi, were received.

APPLICATIONS FOR INDIAN CITIZENSHIP FROM FOREIGNERS

*450. SHRI R. THANHLIRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of foreigners who have so far (i) applied for and (ii) been granted Indian citizenship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (i) The number of foreigners who have applied for Indian citizenship by naturalization and by registration is 70 and 39 respectively.

(ii) Fourteen and 5 respectively.

PROPOSAL TO OPEN GANDHI MAIDAN AROUND VELLORE FORT FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS

*452. SHRI V. M. OBAIDULLAH SAHIB: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to open the Gandhi Maidan, the open ground around the Vellore Fort, for public meetings;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether any decision has been taken in the matter; and

(c) if so, what is the decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not yet.

(c) Does not arise.