

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: These Zonal Councils were constituted at the time of the consideration, by the Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines, of the programme of the Second Five Year Plan. The object also was to co-ordinate between the private sector and the Government with a view to helping them from all points of view, so far as the expedition of production programme was concerned.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know when these Councils were constituted, and whether there is any representation of the Mineral Advisory Board on these Zonal Councils?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Sir, the announcement was made by me in June 1956, and subsequently because the Members of Parliament were also to be included in the Zonal Councils, we wanted to consult the Parliament. But it had prorogued. And therefore, there was some time-lag between the announcement and the constitution. But the Members of Parliament were there, and the representation of the Mineral Advisory Board as such was not to be made on this Zonal Council. The idea was to get some representatives of the State Governments, the private sector and also the Central Government.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, the number of Zonal Councils at present functioning and the areas they comprise of?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Just now there are two Zonal Councils functioning.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: In view of the richness of the mineral resources of the Orissa State, may I know the name of the representative from that State to this Council?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I have not got the names, but some representative of the Government was there, he may be the representative of the Mining Department of the Orissa Government.

ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR ESTABLISHING RIFLE CLUBS

*541. SHRI V. M. OBAIDULLAH SAHIB: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what assistance has been given by the Central Government to States so far during the current year for the establishment of rifle clubs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): Nil.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Is there any proposal in this respect?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: There is a proposal under consideration and we have addressed the State Governments requesting them to consider whether they are prepared to start such training centres, in which case there is also a proposal to contribute some assistance to them.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know if any States have sent such requests for assistance?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: We have not yet received their replies.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know, Sir, whether it is the intention of the Government to open these rifle clubs in all the States?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Now, there are rifle clubs in most of the States. Secondly, we have got the National Rifle Association of India and Government propose to help them.

FINANCE MINISTER'S ADDRESS AT NEW YORK FAR EASTERN CONFERENCE ASSURING INVESTMENT OF AMERICAN PRIVATE CAPITAL IN INDIA

*515. SHRI JASWANT SINGH (ON BEHALF OF SHRI V. K. DHAGE): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on or about the 4th October, 1957, he address-