

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a), (b) and (c). The matter is under active consideration.

UNDER SECRETARIES IN THE DIFFERENT MINISTRIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

*640. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the State-wise number of Under Secretaries working at present in the different Ministries of the Government of India ?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : Appointments to posts of Under Secretaries are not made on a State-wise basis and therefore statistics regarding the State-wise distribution of Under Secretaries are not maintained.

EXCISE DUTY ON OIL PRODUCED AT ALLEPPY

*644 SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of excise duty charged on oil produced in the oil mills at Alleppy ;

(b) the number of such mills closed down there since April, 1956; and

(c) whether Government have received any complaint that the rate of excise duty charged is high ?

THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND DEFENCE EXPENDITURE (SHRI A. C. GUHA) : (a) The rate of excise duty charged is Rs. 70 per ton on Vegetable Non-essential Oils, all sorts ;

(b) There has been no closure of any mill since April, 1956.

(c) No such complaint has been received.

EXPENDITURE ON CULTURAL DELEGATIONS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*648. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 244 answered in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd September, 1956 and state the expenditure incurred and to be

incurred on each of the cultural delegations that have left India and that are likely to leave India during 1956 for foreign countries ?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIV, Annexure No. 121.]

ASSISTANTS IN THE CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

649. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO : Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of temporary Assistants working at present in the Central Secretariat and its attached offices :

(b) how many of them qualified at the Assistant's Grade test held by the Union Public Service Commission in 1951 ; and

(c) how many of them have been confirmed so far?

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) The number is believed to be in the neighbourhood of 2,000. The exact total is not readily available.

(b) It is not known how many of the existing temporary Assistants were eligible for and were declared successful at the Union Public Service Commission Examination held in 1951.

(c) Does not arise.

Loss OF RECORDS OF THE FORMER KOLHAPUR RESIDENCY

*650. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH : Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any valuable records belonging to the former Kolhapur Residency were lost while in transit;

(b) whether any efforts were made to recover them and if so, with what result:

(c) whether the boxes containing these records were properly insured with the Railway authorities; and

(b) ii not, the reasons therefor ?