

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the Government have ascertained the reason why the registers were not submitted to audit?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The form that was first devised was a very complicated one and we were also suffering from lack of trained personnel. The new form that we have now supplied is a simpler one and we are getting the returns properly, but some of the new missions which have been opened after 1950 might have defaulted and, as I said, we are collecting the information and we shall lay it on the Table of the House. After the simplification of the form they were expected to submit returns by the end of June 1954. Most of them have been received but possibly some have not yet been received. As I said, the information is being collected.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Has the Rajkumari Committee which was appointed in this connection received any returns?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: I do not know what Committee the hon. Member is referring to.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: An Advisory Committee was appointed with the hon. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur as President to look into the furnishing and furniture needs of the Embassies.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: It has nothing to do with returns or registers. It was to advise on the artistic aspects of this question.

#### EXCESS OF RADIO ACTIVITY IN UTTAR PRADESH

\*466. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hail-storm, that took place in the beginning of May, 1955 in a small area of Meerut District of Uttar Pradesh causing loss of about a dozen human lives and great damage to ripe corn, trees and

cattle, is estimated to be due to the excess of radio activity in the Uttar Pradesh caused by atomic experiments; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to reduce the radio activity of the atmosphere there, and if so, what are they?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b). No reports about any excess of radio activity in the Meerut District have been received by the Government of India nor have they any information on the subject.

♦467, \*468 and \*469. [For answers, vide cols. 3140—3145 infra.]

#### MARKETING OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES PRODUCTS IN AMERICA

\*470. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime back one Mr. Martinuzzi came to India on Government invitation to make a survey with a view to making arrangements for marketing of the Indian cottage industries products in America; and

(b) if so, what is the result of his survey?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During his stay in Delhi Mr. Martinuzzi visited several Handicrafts Centres to find out the articles which may suit the American taste. On his suggestion, some samples of Indian handicrafts were later displayed at Paris in June, 1953, to study the reaction of fashion experts.

It has since been reported that certain departmental stores of New