

agreement between India and Pakistan for importing long staple cotton because that would save our foreign exchange to a considerable extent, and also freight charges?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I am not sure whether it will save our foreign exchange, but we are always attempting to negotiate with Pakistan to arrange exports.

#### AIRSTRIPS IN THE NORTH EAST FRONTIER AGENCY

\*180. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many airstrips are there at present in the North East Frontier Agency;

(b) whether any new airstrips are likely to be constructed there; and

(c) what is the amount spent on the maintenance of the existing airstrips during the year 1954-55?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) There are at present five airstrips in the North East Frontier Agency.

(b) Yes. It is proposed to increase the number of airstrips so that eventually most of the administrative centres are linked by air. Three siting boards were set up early this year to survey sites for new airstrips but they approved of only 4 sites. It is proposed to reassemble the siting boards during the coming winter and continue our efforts to find suitable sites.

(c) Information regarding the amount spent on the maintenance of the existing airstrips during 1954-55 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are all these airstrips permanent or temporary?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: No, Sir. Only the airstrip at Pasighat is a

regular aerodrome, and the others are fair-weather airstrips.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: There was a proposal last year to construct eight airstrips. Now I am told that only about three are going to be constructed.

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: No, Sir. As I indicated, we have been looking for some suitable sites, and up till now only three sites have been chosen. But during this winter, after the rains are over, we shall again continue our efforts.

SHRI N. D. M. PRASADARAO: What is the purpose of having these eight airstrips?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Well, obviously to put the planes down there whenever needed.

#### NATIONAL BUILDINGS ORGANISATION

\*181. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far by the National Buildings Organisation; and

(b) the expenditure so far incurred on it?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

(a) Though all the technical staff required by the National Buildings Organisation is not yet in position, the Organisation has undertaken the preparation of Model Building Bye-laws and of Type-designs for houses for various income groups. It has also collected literature from various sources relating to research on building materials and, amongst the more important subjects which it is investigating today are the use of non-erodible plaster on mud masonry and the

use of surplus coal ash as building material. Studies are also being made on the possibility of developing such building materials as gypsum and lime-plaster, hollow bricks and mineral wool etc. The National Buildings Organisation is also collecting statistics relating to housing and is building up a modern library on Building Sciences, technique and materials.

(b) A sum of about Rs. 67,000 was spent on the National Buildings Organisation during the year 1954-55, and about Rs. 30,000 have been spent in the current year up to the end of June 1955.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: One of the objects, Sir, is to publish half-yearly bulletins? Is that being done?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The first bulletin has already been compiled, and it is being published soon.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: There is also the question of establishing projects for the manufacture of certain building materials. May I know, Sir, how far the progress has been made in that direction?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I would require notice.

**बाढ़ की रोकथाम के लिए हिमालय-क्षेत्रों में पर्यवेक्षण चौकियों की स्थापना**

\* १५२. श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बाढ़ की रोकथाम के लिए भारत, तिब्बत, नेपाल और भूटान की सरकारों के बीच इन देशों के हिमालय-क्षेत्रों में पर्यवेक्षण चौकियाँ बनाने के बारे में जो लिखा पढ़ी चल रही थी, उसका क्या परिणाम निकला; और

(ख) कहाँ कहाँ पर्यवेक्षण चौकियाँ कायम हो गई हैं या नियुक्त जानने की योजना है और किस प्रकार पर्यवेक्षण कार्य किया जाएगा?

†[ESTABLISHMENT OF SURVEY POSTS IN THE HIMALAYAN REGIONS TO CONTROL FLOODS

\*182. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the result of the negotiations going on between the Governments of India, Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan for establishing survey posts in the Himalayan regions of these countries to control floods; and

(b) the names of the places where the survey posts have been established or are proposed to be established and the manner in which the survey work will be conducted?

ब्रह्मदेशिक कार्य उपमंत्री (श्री अनिल कंद चन्दा): (क) और (ख). चीन लोक गणराज्य, नेपाल और भूटान की सरकारों ने अपने अपने देशों में बाढ़ को रोकने के लिए जरूरी आंकड़ें इकट्ठे करने को, वर्षामापक यंत्र, नदी मापक यंत्र और बतार के तार-घरों की स्थापना करना स्वीकार कर लिया है। इस बारे में मिली सूचना, योजना तथा सिचाई और विद्युत मंत्री द्वारा १५ अगस्त १९५५ को दोनों सदनों की मंजूर पर रख दी गई है।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) and (b). The Governments of the Peoples' Republic of China, Nepal and Bhutan have agreed to the establishment of necessary rain-gauge, river gauge and wireless stations in their respective countries for collecting the data required for flood control. The available information in this regard has been placed on the Tables of both the Houses by the Minister for Planning, Irrigation and Power on the 18th August 1955.]

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान: क्या इन चौकियों से हिमालय प्रदेश में ही सर्वे का कार्य होगा या मैदानी भाग में भी? सर्वे पोस्ट्स के बारे में

†English translation.