

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: I want to know the speed of sound.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, and he has given it in his answer.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: He does not know it.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I thought my hon. friend had heard me. It is 760 miles per hour at sea level under standard conditions.

REASONS FOR SHIFTING THE INDIAN AIR FORCE ACADEMY FROM AMBALA

*107. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for shifting the Indian Air Force Academy from Ambala; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for shifting any other Indian Air Force Academy in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA):

(a) The reasons were as given below:

(i) From the strategic viewpoint training establishments should as far as possible be in the interior of the country.

(ii) the climatic conditions of the new area were considered more suitable for the type of training imparted at the Academy as the maximum flying effort could be put in throughout the year; and

(iii) the runway at Ambala needed complete renovation which would have seriously interrupted the training programme.

(b) None.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know, Sir, whether from the financial point of view, it is profitable to shift the establishment to Secunderabad from Ambala?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: As I said, there were more than one considera-

tions and the overall picture, after considering all of them was that 'it was better to shift this academy to Secunderabad.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: From the strategic point of view, is there any idea to shift the capital from here to some other place?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: No, Sir.

TOBACCO DUTY COLLECTED IN UTTAR PRADESH

†*108. SHRI N. S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state the gross revenue realised from the excise duty on tobacco levied in Uttar Pradesh during each of the financial years:

(i) 1952-53; and

(ii) 1953-54?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI A. C. GUHA): The gross revenue realised from the excise duty on tobacco in Uttar Pradesh during 1952-53 and 1953-54 was Rs. 4,69,17,000 and 4,84,55,000 respectively.

SHRI S. C. KARUMBAYA: Is there any difference in the levy of excise duty on the different grades of tobacco, used for chewing and for smoking?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: Tobacco is graded into different categories and the excise duty levied varies according to the grades.

SHRI S. C. KARUMBAYA: What is the test? How is it differentiated?

† Original notice in Hindi as below:

उत्तर प्रदेश में संग्रहित तम्बाकू शुल्क

*१०८. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश में तम्बाकू पर लगाये गये उत्पादन-शुल्क से निम्नलिखित वित्तीय वर्षों में से प्रत्येक में कुल कितना राजस्व प्राप्त हुआ :

(१) १९५२-५३; और

(२) १९५३-५४ ?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: According to the quality of the tobacco.

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या सरकार के पास किसानों की तरफ से ऐसी शिकायतें आई थीं कि उनके ऊपर जो असेसमेंट होता है वह गलत तरीके से होता है? क्या सरकार ने उन शिकायतों को दूर करने के लिए कोई सुधार किए हैं ?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: There have been complaints not only from U.P. but from all the States. Recently, about a year ago, we introduced a new method in U.P. associating the village panchayats and the Lekhpals. That process is still under experiment. I think that method, properly worked, will remove most of the genuine grievances of the tobacco growers.

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या सरकार ने जो सुधार किये हैं उनको किसानों तक पहुंचाने के लिए उसने कोई पब्लिसिटी का तरीका सोचा है क्योंकि बहुत से लोग अभी तक नहीं जानते हैं ?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: This is being done through the village or gaon panchayats. We have also arranged to distribute pamphlets in the regional language, that is Hindi so far as U.P. is concerned, and I think there won't be any difficulty in the local people knowing it. I might also add that as yet we have not been able to get the full co-operation of the Lekhpals. We are in correspondence with the U.P. Government and the Minister in charge of Agriculture has given us this assurance that they would see that the Lekhpals take proper interest in this matter.

PROF. G. RANGA: In view of the fact that the Government is collecting so much from these tobacco growers, has anything been done to help those people to market their products either through co-operatives or through any State agency?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: I think that question may be directed to some other Ministry, either Agriculture or Commerce.

PROF. G. RANGA: That is it; you only pocket the money.

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या किसानों के निजी इस्तेमाल के लिए कोई तम्बाकू की मात्रा रखी गई है जिस पर ड्यूटी नहीं है ?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: Yes, Sir, there is an exemption limit which varies from area to area according to the habits of the people. Up to that limit, the tobacco is not subjected to any excise duty.

INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS INVOLVING INDIAN AND FOREIGN CAPITAL

*109. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have information regarding the names of joint-stock industrial concerns in India involving both Indian and foreign capital;

(b) if so, whether a list of such concerns will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not collecting the information or data?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI B. GUPTA: May I know whether that statement will be laid on the Table of the House?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Very soon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What does "very soon" mean?