

(b) whether Government have recently received any representations to this effect from any experts?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) and (b). The reply is in the negative. The Government have no such proposal on hand.

FLATS FOR M.Ps.

*652. DK. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent during 1952-53 and 1953-54 on

(i) the construction of flats for Members of Parliament; and

(ii) the repairs and additions to these flats;

(b) the number of servants' quarters and garages attached to these flats which were built during the same period;

(c) the number of flats, bungalows, garages and servants' quarters allotted solely to M.Ps. and their servants; and

(d) the names of contractors who executed these works?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a), (b), (c) and (d). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Council. [See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 295.]

SCHOOLS AND LANGUAGES IN NEFA

*653. SHRI R. THANHLIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of primary schools and secondary schools established in each of the districts of the North East Frontier Agency till the end of 1953; and

(b) the various measures taken by Government for the development of the tribal languages spoken in the North East Frontier Agency?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER. (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) and (b). Detailed information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

AUDITION OF ARTISTES

*654. DR. N. S. HARDIKER: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many artistes have so far been invited by the A. I. R. for audition tests;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the artistes absented themselves from the tests as a mark of protest; and

(c) whether there was any agitation against these tests and if so, whether it has now been settled?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR): (a) 3,593.

(b) Yes, Sir. Some artistes did absent themselves as a protest against auditions in Bombay and in Dharwar.

(c) Last year at the time of auditions, an agitation was started by some artistes and some artistes boycotted A. I. R. Their number was not large. Later the representatives of the artistes saw me and after discussion, they realised that the auditions were mainly meant for helping the artistes by encouraging the deserving and meritorious amongst them. The agitation was withdrawn and the artistes have promised complete co-operation in the work of A.I.R.

RECRUITMENT TO CERTAIN OFFICES IN THE A. I. R.

*655. DR. N. S. HARDIKER: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Station Directors, Assistant Station Directors and