

is in appreciation of his translation of Indian epics; and

(h) whether the poet is in India already, and if not, whether Government intend to invite him to India to deliver lectures at different universities?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): (a) No, poet Wadai Boustany did not apply for any grant from us.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Mahabharata, the Ramayana, the Bhagwad Gita, Shakuntala, Nala and Damayanti and Divine Chronicles (a summary of Indian Mythology.)

(d) An edition of Mahabharata only has already been printed and published in Beirut. No other information is available.

(e) Mahabharata, the only book published has been well received in Egypt. No information is available regarding the reactions of other Arab Countries.

(f) Government of India have decided to publish a cheap edition of Shakuntala for distribution in the Middle Eastern Countries on an experimental basis, on the success of which the question of publication of cheap edition of other manuscripts will be taken up. It is not the intention of the Government to earn profit.

(g) Presumably yes.

(h) The poet is not in India, nor is there a proposal to invite him.

SEMINAR IN TOKYO FOR ASIAN YOUTH LEADERS

*347. SHRIMATI PUSHPALATA DAS: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organisation is going to organise shortly a seminar in Tokyo for Asian Youth Leaders; and

(b) if so, whether India is going to be represented in the seminar?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

MANUFACTURE OF SOLAR HEATERS IN INDIA

*348. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state the number of solar heaters manufactured so far in India?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): Manufacturers inform us that owing to rainy season the demand has not been great and so far only 197 cookers have been produced.

अफीम का उत्पादन

*३४९. श्री किशोरी राम : क्या माननीय वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्रतिवर्ष इन्डिया में कितनी अफीम तैयार होती है और उसको तैयार करने में कितना खर्च पड़ता है ;

(ख) कच्ची अफीम से शद्ध अफीम कितने प्रकार की तैयार होती है ; तथा

(ग) भारत सरकार द्वारा तैयार की हुई अफीमों की बिक्री कहाँ कहाँ और किस दर पर की जाती है ?

†PRODUCTION OF OPIUM

*349. SHRI KISHORI RAM: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much opium is produced in India every year and what is the cost of its production;

†English translation.

(b) how many types of opium are prepared from raw opium; and

(c) what are the places where the various types of opium prepared by Government are sold and what are their rates?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI A. C. GUHA): (a) The quantity of opium produced in India during 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 were 4307 maunds, 10,685 maunds and 7,035 maunds respectively. Information with regard to the cost of production for these three years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(b) Three types of opium namely,

(i) Excise opium,

(ii) Medicinal opium, and

(iii) Export opium

are manufactured at the Government Factories.

(c) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, Annexure No. 85.]

ORDERS FOR MOTOR BOATS PLACED BY THE COLLECTOR OF CENTRAL EXCISE AT BOMBAY

*350. SHRI M. MANJURAN: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Collector of Central Excise at Bombay placed orders for two motor-boats; if so, with whom;

(b) what was the B.H.P. specified for the engines;

(c) whether one of these boats was offered to be delivered sometime in July;

(d) when and where this boat was originally built and who owned it;

(e) whether any tenders were called for;

(f) what was the price offered;

(g) what is the intended use of the boat; and

(h) whether the delivery of the boat has been taken?

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH): The Collector of Central Excise, Bombay has not placed any orders for motor boats in the recent past. But against an indent placed by the Collector of Central Excise, Bombay, the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals has placed an order for 2 sea going launches with Messrs Varuna Shipbuilders, Ltd.

(b) Approximately 150 Brake Horse Power was specified for each of the 2 engines installed in each of the two launches.

(c) One of the launches was offered for delivery in June 1953.

(d) The launches purchased from M/s. Varuna Shipbuilders are second hand and therefore information regarding the place of original construction and their owner-ship is not known, nor were these particulars given in the tender.

(e) Yes Sir; Open tenders were called for by the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals by advertising the demand.

(f) The price quoted by M/s. Varuna Shipbuilders was Rs. 1,55,000 each; but by negotiation this price was brought down by the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals to Rs. 1,50,000 each.

(g) The launches are intended for use as patrol vessels on the sea frontiers at Goa and Diu-Daman for preventing smuggling of goods into India, though as a temporary measure one of them will be sent to the Madras sea coast for patrol work on the Pondicherry and Karaikal sea frontier.

(h) One of the two launches was ready for delivery in June last, but its delivery has not yet been taken as certain defects have been discovered which are being attended to. The company is at work on the second