

been carried out in Khasimara Valley in the District of Khasi and Jaintia Hills in Assam by the Geological Survey of India; and if so, with what results?

**THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD):** The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Council, when received.

#### INVESTIGATIONS FOR OIL AND MINERALS IN SUBANSIRI AREA OF ASSAM

**\*344. SHRIMATI PUSHPALATA DAS:** Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state whether any investigations were carried out for oil and other minerals in Subansiri Area in the North East Frontier Agency, Assam; if so, with what results?

**THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD):** The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Council, when received.

#### ARTICLES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL VALUE

**\*345. DR. RAGHU VIRA:** Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking in order to take advantage of the excavations that are being carried out as a part of irrigation and other projects in different parts of the country and to rescue all articles of archæological value;

(b) whether Government have issued any instructions in the matter to the officers concerned with actual excavations; and

(c) what objects of archæological interest have been brought to light so far and in what places as a result of such excavations?

**THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD):** (a) When archæological antiquities are discovered during irrigation projects, the Department of Archæology surveys the place in order to salvage as much of the ancient relics as possible. When archæological sites are known to exist at sites chosen for irrigation or other projects the Department of Archæology conduct salvage operations or persuade the authorities to divert the project to leave the archæological sites free.

(b) No, as it is not necessary. The officers of the Department of Archæology maintain the desired contact.

(c) Since the hon. Member has not indicated the period or the area to which his question refers, no specific reply can be given. His attention is however drawn to the reports of the Director General published from time to time.

#### ARAB POET WADII BOUSTANY

**\*346. DR. RAGHU VIRA:** Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Arab Poet Wadii Boustany applied to the Government of India for a grant;

(b) if so, what was the amount of the grant asked for;

(c) what are the books which have been translated by the poet;

(d) whether these books have been printed and published; if so, where, when, at what price, and how many copies of each;

(e) what reception these books have received in the Arab world;

(f) what Government intend to do with the copyright; whether they intend to publish these translations and sell them at profit;

(g) whether the Gold Medal which is reported to have been awarded to the poet by the Lebanese Government

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.