

opium, Indian hemp and narcotics in the Centrally Administered States;

(b) whether 'Prohibition' has been introduced in those States in accordance with the directive principle laid down in the Constitution;

(c) if the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, to what extent it has been introduced and with what results; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) be in the negative, the reasons for not introducing prohibition?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) A statement containing the information so far collected is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 209.]

(b) to (d). The policy is to bring about prohibition gradually by reducing the number of liquor shops, declaring more days as 'dry days', shifting of liquor shops to less crowded localities and restricting the selling hours. The quota of opium supplied for consumption is also being reduced every year as also the possession limit.

AGARTALA POWER HOUSE AND WATER WORKS

*647f MUNSHI ARMAN ALI: Will the Minister for STATES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power House and Water Works at Agartala in Tripura have been taken over by Government;

(b) whether any reconstruction work has begun; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what progress has so far been made and by what time the work will be completed?

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU) : (a) The Power House at Agartala has *not so far* been taken over by Government.

There are no water works in Tripura; hence the question of taking them over does not arise.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

PAYMENT OF WAR DAMAGE COMPENSATION

143. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Rs. 98,30,000 provided in the Supplementary Estimates of December, 1952, for payment of war damage compensation in Assam and Manipur;

(b) the names of the persons whose property was damaged and who have preferred these claims for Rs. 98,30,000;

(c) whether pre-audit of these claims will be carried out by the Comptroller of Assam;

(d) the circumstances in which these ten years' old claims have not so far been settled;

(e) whether the law of limitation does not apply to such claims; and

(f) whether the Pakistan Government will bear the share of this charge on the pre-partition Government of undivided India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) : (a) and (b). Of the total amount of Rs. 98.30 lakhs an amount of Rs. 48 lakhs only was provided for war damage compensation. The remaining portion of Rs. 50.30 lakhs was provided for payments to the Air Ministry on account of certain allowances due to RAF personnel, payment for compensation on account of damages caused by manoeuvres and firing practices, arrear works expenditure, payments of hire and compensation for certain requisitioned vessels and miscellaneous increases under pay and allowances.

†Postponed from the 11th May 1953.