The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali) (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 50.]

नारत का इतिहास

*११९. पंडित हा॰ ना॰ तिचारी : क्या क्षिका और वैज्ञानिक गवेबरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत का एक लोकप्रिय इतिहास, जिस के लिये ५,००० रुपये का इनाम रखा गया है, लिखा जा रहा है;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो इन में कितने लेखक भाग ले रहे हैं ; भीर
- (ग) यदि इस सम्बन्ध में ग्रब तक कोई प्रगति हुई है, तो वह क्या है ?

िशिक्षा भीर वैज्ञानिक गवेबस्या मंत्रासय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० का० सा० भीवासी) : (क) जी, हां ।

- (स्र) पंद्रह लेखकों ने भ्रपनी पांडु-लिपियां पेश कर दी हैं।
- (ग) तीन प्रसिद्ध इतिहासकार पांडु-विपियों का निरीक्षण करने के लिये विशेष रूप से नियुक्त किये गये थे। वे इन पांडु-लिपियों का निरीक्षण कर रहे हैं।

State Language of Tripura

*1966. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received a Resolution from Tripura Territorial Council requesting that Bengali may be declared as the State Language of Tripura; and
 - (b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) Yes. (b) The matter is under consideration.

Opium Laws (Amendment) Act, 1967

*1007. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to give effect to the provisions of the Opium Laws (Amendment) Act, 1957;
 and
- (b) the total number of cases of the breach of the provisions of this Act registered so far?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The provisions of the Opium Laws (Amendment) Act, 1957 have already come into effect and the State Governments have been informed that they may frame such rules as they consider necessary for the control of poppy husk within their States.

(b) No case of breach of the provisions of this Act has been reported so far by the State Governments.

Brass Two Anna Coins

*1008. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of brass two anna coins in circulation in the country; and
- (b) the total number of brass two anna coins withdrawn since 1957?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) The total number of nickel-brass two anna coins in circulation on January 31, 1958 was about 33'28 crore pieces.

(b) From the beginning of January, 1957 upto the end of January, 1958, 6·17 crore pieces were withdrawn from circulation.