

State. It has not, however, received any suggestion to start any Soldiers' Home in Bikaner division as one such Home is already in existence at Bikaner proper.

(b) The proposal is likely to be implemented within six months.

Geological Survey of Kerala

*209. { **Shri V. P. Nayar:**
Shri Kodyan:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for a Geological Survey of Kerala State; and

(b) if so, the areas surveyed there so far during the second plan period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the particulars of investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India during the first year of the second plan period is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha (See Appendix II, annexure No. 4).

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*210. **Shri Siddiah:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the amount spent during 1955-56 and 1956-57 on ameliorating the conditions, of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): During 1955-56 approximately a sum of Rs. 552.55 lakhs was spent out of the grants-in-aid sanctioned by the Government of India. The figures of actual expenditure for 1956-57 are not yet known. However, the Central Government sanctioned grants to the extent of Rs. 773.69 lakhs during this year.

New Oil Company in Assam

*212. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Sadhan Gupta:
Shri Biswanath Roy:
Shri Warrior:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state whether negotiations with the Assam Oil Company for setting up of a Rupee Oil Company have since been finalised?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swarn Singh): No, Sir.

Immigration of Pakistani Nationals

*213. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increasing number of Pakistani nationals are entering Indian borders and surrendering their Pakistani passports in order to acquire Indian citizenship;

(b) if so, the actual number of such persons who entered Indian border in the past few months, separately from East and West Pakistan; and

(c) how many of them have been given Indian citizenship and what is the number of pending cases?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha as soon as it is received.

Survey of Blind Population

*214. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 424 on the 28th November, 1956 and state:

(a) the progress since made with regard to the proposed sample survey of the blind population in the country; and

(b) the details thereof?