

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The Project Report for the development of Barsua Mines was submitted by Messrs. J. W. Woormer and Associates, —the Mining Consultants of Hindustan Steel Private Limited—in June, 1956. The scheme has been accepted by the Government. On the basis of the specifications prepared by the Consultants tenders were recently invited for the crushing, conveying, storage and blending equipment for the mines. The quotations received are under examination.

#### Houses for Scheduled Castes

\*560-A. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report about the construction of houses for Scheduled Castes during 1956-57 from the State Governments; and

(b) if so, the number of houses constructed in each State?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Purulia District

\*561. Shri Dasgupta: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that before the 1st November, 1956, the date of the transference of the Purulia district to West Bengal, the Government of Bihar removed from Purulia District:

(i) the records regarding crimes and criminals of the Police department;

(ii) the case records of the criminal court;

(iii) the old and new records of the Educational department; and

(iv) the records of development works, forest and various other departments?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): So far as the Government of India are aware, there was no indiscriminate removal of records of Purulia District by the Government of Bihar. In October 1956, the Government of Bihar reported that Purulia was the Headquarters of the Manbhum District which consisted of two subdivisions, namely, Manbhum Sadar with Headquarters at Purulia, and Dhanbad with Headquarters at Dhanbad. The Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum had full administrative control over the entire district and a number of District offices, which were located at Purulia, served the whole District. The District Judge of Manbhum District was also District Judge of Singhbhum District. In order to ensure that there was no dislocation in the smooth running of the administration consequent on the transfer of territory, the Government of Bihar took certain decisions in regard to the Offices and Officers posted at Purulia who were common to both the Subdivisions and transferred essential books, records, furniture, etc. to Dhanbad belonging to those offices to enable them to run smoothly in Dhanbad District after 1-11-56.

#### Oil Drilling Operations in Assam

\*562. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drilling operations in Well No. 2 of Moran (Assam) have been completed;

(b) to what depth it has been sunk?

(c) when will it pump out the oil;

(d) what will be the possible output daily from this well?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 12,065 feet.

(c) Commercial production could start when transport facilities are available.

(d) It is yet to be assessed.