

what the hon. Members wanted has been given by the hon. Minister.

Shri Punnoose: I want to put only one question.

Mr. Speaker: I thought Members wanted to see that the answers or suggestions are not disclosed to the House; that is what the hon. Minister has done. We will go to the next question.

Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur

*711. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether some buildings and materials in Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur were damaged as a result of the storm which took place on the 1st June, 1957; and

(b) whether any inquiry was instituted to assess the loss?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence (Shri Fatesingh Rao Gaekwad): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the actual amount sanctioned for the reconstruction of the damaged buildings?

Shri Fatesingh Rao Gaekwad: About Rs. 6 lakhs.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether construction work is being carried out by M.E.S. Departmental labour or contractors?

Shri Fatesingh Rao Gaekwad: Some by departmental labour and some by contractors.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What portion?

Shri Fatesingh Rao Gaekwad: 26 of the sheds were repaired by engineer troops, 86 by departmentally employed civilian labourers and 52 by civilian contractors.

Report on Rural Institutes

*712. **Shri Mohan Swarup:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. Louis Smith, Ford Foundation Consultant on Rural Edu-

cation has submitted to Government any report on his impressions of Rural Institutes in India; and

(b) if so, the main features of the report?

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

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 95.]

Shri Mohan Swarup: May I know the main features of that?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The statement gives all the main features.

Shri Mohan Swarup: Can they not be disclosed?

Mr. Speaker: The statement is laid on the Table of the House. It is here. The hon. Member may look into it. It has become public property now.

Shri Mohan Swarup: May I know whether the Government has any intention to implement that scheme?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will read that scheme and then ask them.

Taxation Reform

*713. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint a Committee to study State and local finances and recommend structural modifications in them in the light of the needs of finance for development?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): The question of arranging for a closer study of State and local finances in the context of the developmental needs of the country has been thought over in the Finance Ministry from time to time, but no decision has yet been taken to appoint a Committee for this purpose.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know when the decision is likely to be taken to appoint the committee?