

scheme for the Improvement of Population data. The essential parts of this scheme were tried out in certain States in 1952-53 and 1953-54. The results are under examination and study and will be published shortly.

(c) Government have already decided that Home Ministry will now proceed with the scheme for improvement of population data, including the collection of birth and death statistics, and concrete steps will be taken very shortly.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the defects in the old method?

Shri Datar: The defects in the old method were principally those of omission. Most of the registers were not up-to-date, and a number of cases, either of deaths or of births, were not noted at all.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether all the States maintain births and deaths registers?

Shri Datar: I believe most of the States do maintain, but they have not been kept properly.

N.C.C.

*938. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of the total strength of the National Cadet Corps at present is made up by girls; and

(b) whether girls are eligible for all divisions of the National Cadet Corps?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) 1.15 per cent, but is likely to be raised to about 5 per cent during the current year.

(b) No, Sir; under section 5 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, girls are eligible for recruitment only to the Girls Division of the N.C.C.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the Girls Division constitute some portion of junior as well as

senior divisions or they are recruited only for the junior division?

Shri Satish Chandra: The units of the Girls Division were raised so far only in universities and colleges, but from this year these are being raised in the schools also.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether there is any proportion fixed for girls, so far as this recruitment is concerned, in the authorised strength?

Shri Satish Chandra: There is no authorised strength as such for the N.C.C., but I may inform the hon. Member that last year the strength of the cadets was only 600. It has already been incurred to about 870. By the end of current academic year, it is proposed to raise strength of Girls units to more than 5,000 cadets.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is the strength determined for every year or is any target fixed as the maximum?

Shri Satish Chandra: The target for this year is 5,000. There is no regular increase in targets year by year. It is fixed on an *ad hoc* basis according to the funds available.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury: Is there a nursing division in the N.C.C. at all?

Shri Satish Chandra: The curriculum prescribed for the Girls Division includes training in first aid, sanitation, hygiene etc.

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

*939. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether in pursuance of the Article VI of the General Agreement for Technical Cooperation between the Government of U.S.A. and the Government of India, any annual report of activities has been prepared since 1950;

(b) if so, whether a copy of each of the reports will be laid on the Table of the House; and