

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) The salient recommendations of the Committee are—

(i) Application of chemical preservatives to the Temple for protection against salt,

(ii) plantation of trees around the Temple for protection against sand, and

(iii) application of water-tightening measures both inside and outside the temple.

The Committee also recommended that an all-weather road from Bhubaneswar to Konarka should be constructed and provision should be made for lodging and boarding within the Konarka area for the benefit of tourists.

(b) Experiments with chemical preservatives are being carried out and humidity tests are being taken. Steps are being taken to implement the other recommendations.

As regards construction of the road, the Government of India are in correspondence with the State Government.

PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

***1412. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred by Government in connection with the election of the President of the Indian Union;

(b) whether any expenditure was incurred in connection with the election of the Vice-President; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what was the amount of such expenditure?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) to (c). Expenditure has been incurred by the Election Commission in connection with the Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections only on the purchase of 38 special ballot boxes for the former and 4 for the latter, election. The expenditure incurred on this account on the Presidential election was Rs. 3,116 and in respect of the Vice-Presidential election Rs. 328.

Ballot papers for the Presidential election were printed at the Government of India Press *gratis*. The cost on this account will be met out of the grant of the Government of India Presses. Government has no information as to the exact amount spent on this account.

In addition, expenditure has been incurred by the different State Governments in the actual conduct of the poll and in the despatch of the ballot boxes to the Returning Officer at New Delhi. Here again, Government has no information as to the amount spent by the various State Governments.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO HARIJAN AND BACKWARD CLASS STUDENTS

***1413. Shri Kakkam:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the number of scholarships given to the Harijan students who were studying in Engineering Colleges in Madras State in 1951-52?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): 41.

EDUCATION IN TRIBAL AREAS OF ASSAM

***1414. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) how many aided and full-fledged Government high schools are there in the North East Frontier Agencies and the autonomous districts of Assam;

(b) how many such Middle English Schools are there; and

(c) whether it is the policy of Government to introduce compulsory primary education in the Tribal areas of Assam?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). The information has been called for and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) It is the policy of the Government to introduce free and compulsory Primary Education in all States of India including Assam and its Tribal Areas, but its implementation depends on how far the financial capacity of the Government can cope with the demands of the States.

INDO-GERMAN INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION SCHEME

***1415. Shri Hem Raj:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state what will be the subjects of study and duration of training of Indian Engineers under the Indo-German Industrial Co-operation Scheme?

(b) How the selection of these students and engineers will be made?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 7.]

(b) The selection of candidates will be made by the Selection Board constituted by Government for the purpose.

EXCAVATIONS AT AHICHATRA

***1416. Shri Raghuraj Sahai:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the excavation work at 'Ahichatra' near Aonla in District Bareilly (U.P.) has been completed;

(b) if so, whether any report of the work done has been issued;

(c) the conclusion to which Government have arrived as a result of the excavations made at Ahichatra?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) The Excavations work at Ahichatra has been completed to the extent that is necessary to get an idea of the history of the site.

(b) A summary of the results of the excavations was published in 'Ancient India' No. 1. A complete report on the pottery was also published in the same number of the Journal and a report on the terracotta figurines was published in No. 4 of the Journal.

(c) The excavations revealed that the site was under continuous occupation from 300 B.C. or earlier to 1100 A.D.

SHOOTING PRACTICES

***1417. Shri N. L. Joshi:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of cleaning the fields after the shooting practice by the Military soldiers is continuing;

(b) will the Government give the figures of loss of life and injury to the person and property of the citizens due to this shooting practice during the last financial year;

(c) was any compensation paid by Government for the above loss during the last financial year;

(d) if so, how much and to whom?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). I lay a statement on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 8.]

EXCAVATIONS AT SISUPALGARH

***1418. Pandit Lingaraj Misra:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) what is the up-to-date expenditure by the Archaeological Department on the excavations at Sisupalgarh (Orissa), separately on (1) the work itself and on (2) the supervisory Staff;

(b) whether the excavations, so far conducted, have yielded sufficient data to reach a definite conclusion as to the age of the Fort;

(c) if not, do Government propose to resume further excavations and, if so, when the work is expected to be resumed?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) A sum of Rs. 79,589/11/3 was spent on the excavations at Sisupalgarh of which Rs. 77,275/1/3 was spent on the work itself and the balance on the pay of the supervisory staff engaged specifically for the purpose.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

AUDIT OF EMBASSIES ABROAD

***1419. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the present arrangements for the audit of accounts of our Embassies and Missions abroad;

(b) the number of Auditors so employed;

(c) the authority under which these Auditors work; and

(d) whether their reports are received periodically?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The Accounts of the High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom including the India Stores Department are audited by the India Audit Office in London which has been in existence for several decades. This office has recently been conducting a few local inspections of the Embassies in Europe. The accounts of the Indian Embassy in Washington including the India Supply Mission are audited by the India Audit Office, Washington, which was established a few months ago. All