

## FOREIGN TOURS OF MINISTERS

\*2651. **Shri Kamath** : Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Ministers who will be touring outside India during the ensuing Parliamentary recess ;

(b) the portfolios they hold ; and

(c) the purpose for or the mission on which each of them will be going abroad ?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar)** : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 33.]

**Shri Kamath** : From the statement laid on the Table, I find that only the permanent Health Minister, the *pro tem*—the temporary Health Minister as also the Prime Minister and the Deputy Minister of External Affairs will be visiting foreign countries. Is this list final and will the Minister let the House know whether any other colleagues of his are not planning any tours abroad during the Indian summer ?

**Shri Datar** : So far as the enquiries were made after the question was received from the hon. Member, this is the final list.

**Shri Kamath** : What are the rules and regulations governing the grant of allowances, travelling and other, to Ministers when they are abroad ?

**Shri Datar** : We have got rules of which possibly the House is aware.

**Shri Kamath** : I am not aware. Will he lay a statement on the Table of the House ?

**Mr. Speaker** : I will ask him to place it in the library. All such rules are placed in the library.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee** : Could we have the total number of Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and their entourages who will

be going out during the coming recess, because I understand that apart from Ministers some members of Government are also going.

**Shri Datar** : It is likely that some officials will be accompanying the Ministers.

## NATIONAL LABORATORIES

\*2652. **Shri R. P. Garg** : Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state :

(a) the direct contribution made by the National Laboratories towards the implementation of the First Five Year Plan ;

(b) whether any effective agency exists for close co-ordination between the Second Five Year Plan and Scientific Research ; and

(c) if so, concrete projects prepared for these laboratories for the success of the Second Five Year Plan ?

**The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya)** : (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 34]

**Shri R. P. Garg** : In view of the steadily growing importance of applied science for the speedy economic development of the country, would Government like to direct the national laboratories to devote more attention to applied sciences than to fundamental sciences ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya** : The national laboratories have already elaborately planned their programme which includes lot of work on the applied side also. If the hon. Member just looks into the statement he will find that there are many important conclusions arrived at in the laboratories which have been handed over to the National Research Development Corporation for further examination.

**Shri R. P. Garg** : What is the percentage of expenditure on applied science as compared to that on fundamental research ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** I am afraid such a division of expenditure cannot be clearly made, because the whole work is an integrated one in a laboratory.

**Shri Kasliwal :** Prof. M. S. Thacker, who is one of the directors of one of the biggest national laboratories has made some statement to the effect that it is proposed to establish pilot projects in all the national laboratories so that they may be useful for furthering the implementation of the Five Year Plan. May I know how far this statement is true ?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** It is a fact that pilot project plans are contemplated in those national laboratories where they will be needed. For instance, if there are worth-while experiments concluded in the laboratories and if they require further pursuance, the pilot project schemes will be taken up in those laboratories, but it is not that in every national laboratory such schemes will be taken up.

### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

#### FAMINE IN TAMENGLONG

**S. N. Q. No. 23. Shri Rishang Keishing :** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who died due to starvation in Tamenglong in Manipur recently ;

(b) whether Government have made a survey of the famine conditions in this area ;

(c) if so, the condition prevailing there ;

(d) whether the area has been declared as famine affected area ;

(e) the amount Government have spent for gratuitous relief work in this area ; and

(f) the relief measures and works so far started by Government in the area ?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) :** (a) No death by starvation has been reported from the Tamenglong Sub-Division either by the Sub-Divisional Officer or the villagers ;

(b) The Sub-Divisional Officer and one of the Advisers have surveyed the conditions in this Sub-Division. There is no famine in this area ;

(c) The reports indicate that there is some scarcity in about 40 villages. To meet the prevailing conditions adequate supplies of rice and paddy have been made and paddy is being sold through Government retail shops at a subsidised rate of Rs. 5 per maund which is lower than the market price. The off-take from the grain shops has however been very small ;

(d) No ;

(e) The need for gratuitous relief has not arisen so far but for the help of the villagers paddy is being sold at a sufficiently low rate and three retail shops one at Tamenglong headquarters and one each at Tama and Khoupum in the northern and southern area of the Sub-Division have been started. Stocks at Tamenglong have been further increased recently by air dropping more than 500 maunds of paddy with the help of I.A.F. ;

(f) There is ample provision of work on the existing or proposed construction works and by porterage. The expenditure on Imphal-Tamenglong road last year was estimated at Rs. 11,31,000 and this year more than Rs. 20 lakhs are to be spent. Similarly expenditure in the Bishenpur-Cachar road was estimated to be about Rs. 50,000 last year and the provision this year amounts to Rs. 3 lakhs. Rs. 50,000 are provided for village path, irrigation works etc. The local authorities are fully aware of the situation and if there is any need for gratuitous relief or other measures they will do the needful.

**Shri Rishang Keishing :** In view of the fact that we have received information from the people of that area that there have been deaths due to starvation in the Tamenglong area, I would like to know whether the Government has enquired about this matter from there, as the report of the State Government is contradictory to that of the people of that area.