

South West line drawn through Sri-mashnam and Udaiyarpalayam on the west, Shetiatope lower ancient road on the east.

As a result of the Geophysical investigations conducted in the coastal tracts of Tanjore and South Arcot districts, the thickness of sediments was established to be of the order of 2700 metres.

Working Days for the High Courts

1548. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Chief Justices of the High Courts in India who met in conference in Bombay recently have expressed disapproval of the rule of 210 working days for the High Courts; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The conference of Chief Justices has suggested that the number of working days in High Courts should not exceed 200 days a year.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Geological Survey in Kerala

1549. Shri Koya: Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any geological survey in Cannanore district of Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that lignite deposits have been found there;

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken for the exploration of the lignite there?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajar-navis): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Two bands of lignite have been found exposed on the face of the cliff near the town of Cannanore under 6 to 7.5 metres of laterite

and sandstone. The upper band is 0.45 metre thick and the lower 1.5 metres. In view of its occurrence beneath the important township of Cannanore and small thickness, the deposit is not workable.

Chinese as Indian Citizens

1552. Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Chinese born persons who have become Indian citizens;

(b) if so, the number of such persons; and

(c) the professions these persons are pursuing in India?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes;

(b) 207 under the provisions of the Constitution and 20 under the Citizenship Act, 1955.

(c) They are mostly engaged in small business such as Laundries, Shoe shops, Dentists, Hair dressing saloons, Restaurants, Carpentry shops etc.

Free Legal Aid to the poor

{ Shri S. M. Banerjee:
1553. { Shri Siddiah:
 { Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to afford free legal aid to the poor;

(b) whether some of the lawyers have volunteered their services for this; and

(c) if so, their number?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) Legal aid to the poor being primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, the question of taking a final decision in the matter by the Government of India does not arise.