

(e) whether articles other than jewellery, like cash were attached in these raids; and

(f) whether the sealed imported synthetic stones that were declared in the Income Tax Returns were exempted from attachment?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) No such raids were made in the Districts of Gurdaspur and Ferozepore during this period; in the District of Amritsar thirty raids in all were made one in 1955 and twenty nine in 1956.

(b) No smuggled jewellery was found. The quantity of gold seized in 1955 was 90 tolas valued at Rs. 9,000 and in 1956, 427 tolas valued at Rs. 42,700.

(c) No prosecution was undertaken.

(d) In view of the negative reply to (c) above this question does not arise.

(e) No.

(f) No such question came up for consideration.

Colombo Plan

711. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance has been granted during 1957-58 so far to neighbouring countries under the Colombo Plan by India; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Technical assistance in the nature of provision of training facilities in India and services of Indian experts is given to India's neighbours who are members of the Colombo Plan. In addition, economic assistance is given to Nepal through the Indian Aid Mission for the execution of development schemes, construction and maintenance of roads, and conducting of surveys etc.

Location of Oil Refinery

712. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Basumatari:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether a body of experts has been selected for preparing the project studies for Barauni and Gauhati with a view to take a final decision regarding the location of the new oil Refinery;

(b) if so, its composition;

(c) whether they have completed their studies and submitted their report to Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the cost of preparation of the report?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). M/s. Foster Wheeler Corporation of U.S.A. have been selected as consultants for the preparation of project studies for the proposed refinery. They will start the work shortly.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Rupees three lakhs approximately.

Welding Works in Steel Plants

713. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount estimated to be necessary for welding works in Rourkela, Durgapur and Bhilai steel projects; and

(b) what percentage of the above welding work will be done by the Indian Oxygen and Acetylene Company (Private) Ltd.?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Information is not available separately on the cost of welding.