

Commission in Gujarat. The Question of recognition is under consideration of the Commission.

(b) Main grievances related to regularisation of contingent workers, payment of overtime wages, payment of arrears of revised scales of pay, implementation of Employees Provident Fund and other individual grievances. An agreement has been reached between the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Workers' Organisation regarding the grievances and the implementation of the agreement is in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

State Bank Branch in Ambala City

2426. { Shri P. Kunhan:
Shri Umamath:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage in cash due to misappropriation is reported in the State Bank of India, Ambala City Branch;

(b) if so, how many such incidents of shortage have taken place; and

(c) what action has been taken in this respect?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). Certain shortages in the currency chest balance for which the State Bank of India is responsible were reported at the time of the checking of the balance by a new accountant posted to the Ambala branch. This is the first known instance of a shortage in the currency chest balance at Ambala.

(c) The question of the action to be taken will be considered when the investigations, which are under way, have been completed.

Cement Companies

2427. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri P. Kunhan:
Shri Umamath:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state the number of cement producing companies with the number of factories owned by them and their respective capacity at present sanctioned for expansion?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): There are at present 20 companies engaged in the manufacture of cement. Except for Messrs. Associated Cement Companies Ltd., Bombay, who own 14 cement factories, all the other companies own one cement factory each. A statement showing the existing capacities of the cement producing companies and the additional capacity approved for expansion is laid on the Table of the House.

Coal Distribution

2428. Shri Himatsingka: Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of India Coal Merchants Association have represented against the new scheme of distribution of BRK 'Z' and SSI' classes of coal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). In order to effect a quicker turn round of wagons and enable movement in block rakes to specified destinations, distribution of soft coke, and coal required for brickburning and small scale industries were rationalised with effect from September 1961 by channelising the supplies through the District Magistrates or nominees appointed by the State Governments. The Indian Coal Merchants' Association represented against this scheme stating that such a scheme would disturb the normal

trade channels, and result in deterioration in the quality of coal supplied to the consumers. In spite of what the Association stated the scheme has been functioning satisfactorily for the last one year.

Degree College in Naham District of Himachal Pradesh

2429. **Shri Pratap Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the demand of the residents of Naham, District Sirmur, Himachal Pradesh for a Science Degree College for that part of Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivall): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The proposal of the Himachal Pradesh Administration to start a Government College at Sirmur was considered by the Advisory Committee on Himachal Pradesh at its meeting held on 31st August, 1962. Its views are awaited.

Swedish Aircrafts for I.A.F.

2430. **Shri Mohan Nayak:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Additional Defence Secretary visited Sweden recently for the purchase of Swedish Aircraft for the I.A.F.; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the visit and talks?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Accommodation for Delhi Cantt. Employees

2431. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) why civilian Defence Employees of the Central Government, working

in Delhi Cantt. are not entitled for Government residential accommodation from general pool controlled by the Directorate of Estates, under the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply, when Delhi Cantt. is considered at par with New Delhi and Old Delhi for the purpose of City Compensatory Allowance, Contributory Health Scheme etc.;

(b) what is the other source of their getting the Government accommodation; and

(c) if there is any, how many have been provided with the accommodation so far?

The Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Shri K. Raghuramaiah): (a) The general pool accommodation in the capital is intended for officers serving in Delhi and New Delhi proper and not in outlying areas. So long as there is shortage of accommodation for officers serving at Delhi and New Delhi, it is not considered desirable to make the staff stationed in suburbs also eligible from the general pool. The fact that officers working in offices located in a particular place are eligible for City Compensatory Allowance, Contributory Health Scheme benefits etc. is not a criterion for deciding the eligibility of the staff of that office for general pool accommodation.

(b) Civilians paid from Defence Services Estimates, except M.E.S. key personnel and non-combatants un-enrolled who are required to live near their place of duty, are not entitled to Government residential accommodation. However residential accommodation is allotted to defence civilians of these categories whenever it is surplus to the requirements of the Defence Services.

(c) 295 civilian employees have been provided with Government accommodation at Delhi Cantt. In addition, 288 civilian employees employed in Air Force Station, Palam, have been provided with Government accommodation.