

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) :
(a) A statement showing the names of the countries from which purchases were made by the Department of Supply during 1967-68 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1627/68*]

(b) Preparation of an item-wise list would involve lot of time and labour which would not be commensurate with the result to be achieved. However, the total value of the purchases made during 1967-68 from the various countries on the basis of data collected so far has been indicated in the statement being placed in reply to part (a) of the Question.

PENSION/GRATUITY CASES

2811. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: SHRI RAMACHANDRA ULAKA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of the Central Government employees which were pending for final sanction of pension/gratuity as on the 31st May, 1968 ; and

(b) the approximate period for which these cases have been pending ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as available.

VIOLATION OF GOLD CONTROL RULES

2812. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: SHRI RAMACHANDRA ULAKA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of Gold Control Rules violations detected during the last three months ; and

(b) the nature of violations and the action taken against the offenders ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

YOUNG GIRLS FROM KERALA SENT TO WEST GERMANY

2813. SHRI JAGANNATH RAO JOSHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5831 on the 1st April, 1968 and state :

(a) whether the information regarding young girls from Kerala sent to West Germany has since been collected ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) to (c). The information has been collected. But some discrepancy in the details received from two different sources has been noticed. To reconcile this a reference has to be made to the sources supplying the information and it is likely to take some time.

THEFT OF FILES FROM CENTRAL EXCISE AND CUSTOMS OFFICE, DELHI

2814. SHRI LATAFAT ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in February, 1968 a box containing some important files was stolen from the Central Excise and Customs Office, Delhi ;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been made in this connection and results thereof ; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to tighten the security arrangements in that office ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) It is a fact that a box containing some files was stolen from the office of the Collector of Central Excise, Delhi, on the night of 20-2-1968.

(b) The theft was discovered on the 21st morning and the matter was immediately reported to the police by the Collector. The Superintendent of Police, Central District, Delhi, was also personally contacted and all facilities were extended to the Police to trace the missing trunk. Neither the police investigation, nor the departmental enquiries which were undertaken simultaneously, have, however, succeeded in

tracing the trunk till now. The police have been requested by the Collector to make a fresh attempt in the matter, if necessary, by taking the help of Criminal Investigation Department.

(c) The security arrangements in the Collector's office have been tightened. A copy of the instructions issued by the Collector in this regard is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1628/68*]

SCHOLARSHIPS TO MANIPUR STUDENTS

2814A. SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) how many students of Manipur were given low income group scholarship for 1967-68 ;

(b) the amount spent for the same ;

(c) the range of income of the guardians against which the students were given this scholarship; and

(d) the range of income insisted upon by the Government of Manipur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA) : (a) 53355.

(b) Rs. 21,13,871.

(c) and (d). Below Rs. 2,000 per annum. 12-07 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REVELATION MADE IN U.S. CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY RE. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION OF DEFENCE INTEREST TO U.S.A. FROM HIMALAYAN BORDER

SHRI TRIDIB KUMAR CHAUDHURI (Berhampore) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :—

“The revelation made in the United States Congressional testimony released on the 18th July, 1968 in Washington that the University of California Sociology Research Project in the Himalayan Border Region of India is financed by the Defence Department of the U.S. Government for collecting information of Defence interest for the U.S.A.”

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : According to the information which we have received from our Embassy in Washington, it appears that on May 28, 1968, in a testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee presided over by Senator Fulbright, Vice-Admiral Rickover made certain critical references to the Defence Department financing and conducting behavioural and social science research abroad. Senator Fulbright observed that he had received a letter from a Professor at the University of California also critical of Defence Department financing sociological research in India. The Professor from California has been identified as one Dr. Gerald D. Berroman. The Congressional hearing was made public on July 18, 1968.

From the testimony given by Admiral Rickover and the intervention of the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Fulbright, and from the letter written by Professor Berroman, it appears that a project was established at the University of California, Berkeley, in September, 1960 to coordinate and support research activities with a primary interest in the Himalayan area. During the first 6 years of its existence, a number of scholars have conducted field work in various parts of the Himalayan area.

Grants to support the field work and other research activities by scholars under the Project were received from various sources including the Institute of International Studies, the American Institute of Indian Studies, the Social Science Research Council and the National Science Foundation. However, for the period commencing 1967 and ending with 1970, the Advanced Research Project Agency provided funds for the Himalayan Border Countries to the extent of 60 per cent. It now transpires that this particular Agency is part of the Defence Department of the United States Government.

Under the Himalayan Border Countries Project of the California University, two research programmes were presented to the Government of India under the first programme, research was to be conducted by Professor J. Downs, Associate Professor of Anthropology of the University of Arizona in the language and culture of the Tibetan refugees living in and around