

the grant of pay scales of trained teachers to untrained non-Matriculate teachers working in Elementary Schools in Manipur and state :

(a) Whether Government have taken any decision in the matter ; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN) : (a) and (b). The matter is still under examination in consultation with the Manipur Administration.

Case against Shankaracharya of Puri

988. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :
SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Shri Sankaracharya of Puri has since been legally proceeded against ;

(b) Whether the State has been associated in the case as the complainant; and

(c) Whether any changes in the laws are being considered to enable more effective action against such anti-social activities in the name of religion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) :

(a) and (b). According to information furnished by the Government of Bihar, police have registered a case under the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 and Section 153-A, IPC, in respect of the speech delivered by Sankaracharya of Puri at Patna on 29 March, 1969. The case is under investigation. The Delhi police have also registered and are investigating a case under the Untouchability (Offences) Act 1955 in respect of the statement made by the Shankaracharya of Puri in Delhi on 8th April, 1969.

(c) The suggestions made by the Committee on Untouchability and Economic and Educational Development of

Scheduled Castes for the amendment of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 are under examination.

Archaeological Findings at Ambari in Gauhati

989. SHRI BEDARBATA BARUA :
SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI :
SHRI HEM BARUA :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether some interesting archaeological findings have been unearthed at Ambari in Gauhati town;

(b) Whether any preliminary assessment has been made about their age and importance;

(c) Whether the Archaeological Survey of India has been entrusted with the excavation work in this area; and

(d) Whether the Archaeological Survey has given its own assessment of the findings?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (SHRIMATI JAHNARA JAIPAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Yes, Sir. The finds have been assigned to *circa* 9th-10th century A.D.

(c) No, Sir. The University of Gauhati in collaboration with the Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies, Assam, proposes to carry on the excavation at the site.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Indo-Burma Pioneer Mission of America

990. SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 9095 on the 9th May, 1969 and state :

(a) Whether the activities of Indo-Burma Pioneer Mission of America have been ascertained from the Manipur Administration; and