

Rioting by Sadhus courting arrest in connection with anti-cow slaughter agitation in the New Delhi jail.

*1691. **Shri Ishaq Sambhali:**
Shri Ramji Ram:
Shri Ghayoor Ali Khan:
Shri Chandra Shekhar Singh:
Shri K. M. Madhukar:
Shri Ramavatar Shastri:
Shri Latafat Ali Khan:
Shri Satya Narain Singh:
Shri N. R. Patil:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sadhus convicted in connection with the anti-cow slaughter agitation indulged in rioting in the New Delhi Jail, as a result of which they have been challaned;

(b) if so, the number of such Sadhus and the Sections of the Indian Penal Code under which they have been challaned; and

(c) the preventive action the Jail authorities have taken to stop the recurrence of such offences?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) Yes, Sir, on 20th March 1967.

(b) Six persons have been challaned for offences under sections 147, 149, 304 I.P.C.

(c) The security arrangements have been tightened and greater vigilance is being exercised.

Mid-Term Elections

*1692. **Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Chief Ministers have advised Government to hold mid-term elections after the fall of a Ministry in a State;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government have decided any principle or policy about the holding of mid-term elections?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government are not required to formulate any policy regarding mid-term elections.

National Committee for Gandhi Centenary.

*1693. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri O. P. Tyagi:
Shri Ram Gopal Shalwale:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a grant of Rs. 500,000 given to the National Committee for Gandhi Centenary for 1966-67 was spent on holding numerous meetings of the sub-Committees, salary and allowances of the staff, travelling expenses, car maintenance and publicity according to the Balance Sheet;

(b) whether it is a fact that hardly any donations have been received by the Committee;

(c) if so, whether such a waste of public money has been enquired into; and

(d) the amount allotted to the Committee for 1967-68 and how it is proposed to be spent?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) Out of the grant of Rs. 5 lakhs, only Rs. 2,91,776 was utilized during 1966-67. The major part of the expenditure was for advances to Sub-Committees for implementation of their programmes and the balance was for staff, travelling allowance, contingencies and miscellaneous items. A copy of the Balance Sheet is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1396/67].

(b) The Committee has not asked for donations so far.