

supplies of commodities essential to the community.

As a result of the strict enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 by the State Governments/Union Territories, the number of persons arrested under the Essential Commodities Act, during the first 5 months of the current year were 6,117 as compared to the 10,243 during the entire year of 1979. Similarly, the number of persons detained under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 were only 16, till the first week of January, 1980, whereas the number of persons detained afterwards were 119, till 7th August, 1980.

Further amendments to the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 are actively under consideration for making it more effective and stringent.

Staff cars with Banks, L.I.C. and Public Undertakings

1246. SHRI G. R. MHAISEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cars and other passenger carrying vehicles with the Nationalised Banks, Life Insurance Corporation and Public Undertakings;

(b) the amount of annual expenditure on maintenance petrol, salaries and drivers etc. of these vehicles; and

(c) whether it is a fact that employees getting conveyance allowance are allowed the use of these cars?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c) The relevant information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Overtime allowances paid to employees in Banks, LIC, P&T Department and Public Undertakings

1247. SHRI G. R. MHAISEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of overtime allowance paid to employees of Nationalized banks, L.I.C., Post and Telegraph Department and Public Undertakings during the last three years; and

(b) what is their percentage to the total expenditure on the Salaries and Allowances of the employees of these departments/offices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Raid on the Margoa based mine owner

1248. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Revenue Investigators recently raided the residential and business premises of a Margoa based mine owner;

(b) whether it is a fact that during the investigation it was found that foreign exchange at the rate of 10 U.S. cents per ton was retained abroad; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Income-tax Department conducted a raid in the business and residential premises of M/s. Sociedade de Fomento Industrial (Pvt.) Ltd. and Group of cases at Margoa (Goa) on 2nd, 3rd and 4th May, 1980.

(b) and (c) Preliminary investigation reveals that the company has been under-invoicing exports. Investigations are in progress.