

attempt, there was a conspiracy among Express Newspapers (P) Ltd and Ark Investments (P) Ltd. and the directors.

A complaint has been filed before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Madras, under sections 120-B, 193 and 196 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 277 of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The accused are Shri Ramnath Goenka, Shri Bhagwandass Goenka, son of Shri R. N. Goenka, Smt. Sarojkumari Goenka, wife of Shri Bhagwandass Goenka, Shri A. N. Sivaraman, Director of M/s. Express Newspapers (P) Ltd., Shri Hari Ram Agarwala, brother's son of Shri Ram Nath Goenka, Shri V. Kuppaswami, Chief Accounts Officer of M/s. Express Newspapers (P) Ltd., Madras M/s. Express Newspapers (P) Ltd., Madras and M/s. Ark Investments (P) Ltd., Madras.

(ii) Faced with losses running into about Rs. 85 lakhs due to fall in value of shares of M/s. Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. Indian Express Newspaper (Bombay) (P) Ltd., Express Newspapers (P) Ltd., Madras, Indian Express (Madurai) (P) Ltd., Andhra Prabha (P) Ltd., Vijayawada and their Directors and others formed a bogus firm in the name of 'Express Traders in order to pass off the above loss incurred on 'capital account as a trading loss.

Although the firm was formed after April, 1971, it was made to appear that it had in fact been formed with effect from 1-10-1970 with the four accused companies as partners of the said firm.

In this connection, a complaint has been filed under sections 277 and 278 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 in the Court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, 19th Court, Esplanade, Bombay. The following are the accused in this complaint:

- (1) Shri Ram Nath Goenka.
- (2) Shri Bhagwandass Goenka, son of Shri R. N. Goenka.
- (3) Smt. Sarojkumari Goenka, wife of Shri Bhagwandass Goenka.

- (4) Shri G. M. Laud.
- (5) Shri A. N. Sivaraman.
- (6) Shri Ashok S. Dalmia.
- (7) Shri K. L. Shah.
- (8) Shri R. S. Jhaveri.
- (9) Indian Express Newspaper (Bombay) (P) Ltd.
- (10) Express Newspapers (P) Ltd., Madras.
- (11) Indian Express (Madurai) (P) Ltd., and
- (12) Andhra Prabha (P) Ltd., Vijayawada.

(c) and (d) In connection with investigations in this group of cases, the house of an Assistant Income-tax Commissioner was searched and certain relevant documents were seized. A key of the locker of a bank was also recovered which led to the recovery of Rs. 1,14,619 in cash. As there was a *prima facie* case involving a possible offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act, the officer has been placed under suspension. The C.B.I. is investigating the case.

#### Merger of Dearness Allowance with pay

\*174. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of the Central Government employees have suggested merger with pay of the Dearness Allowance at 272 points of the cost of living index; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any final decision in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The matter came up for discussion at the eighteenth Ordinary Meeting of the National Council (JCM) held on 30-7-76 and 31-7-1976 It was pointed out to the Staff Side that the present time was

not appropriate to think of such merger when the 12 monthly average Consumer Price index was falling and Government had taken measures to check the price rise. In any case, the main object of merging a portion of D.A. with pay is to improve the pensionary benefits, in keeping with the rise in prices. Following the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission, Government have sanctioned five instalments of relief to pensioners, and to this extent they have already been insulated from the increase in the consumer price index. Merger of D.A. with pay would, therefore, confer additional benefits on pensioners, and may not be justified in the present circumstances. After discussion, it was agreed that the matter be deferred for the time being.

**Search at the Calcutta premises of a former Zamindar family**

**\*175. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO:**  
**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:**

Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of the recent search at the South Calcutta premises of a former zamindar's family, documents relating to property worth Rs. 30 lakhs in a foreign country have been recovered by the Income-tax authorities; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Search and seizure operations were recently conducted by the Income-tax authorities at Calcutta at the premises of a former Zamindar in earstwhile East Pakistan. As a result of these operations, it has come to light that the said zamindar had claimed approximately Rs. 24.4 lakhs from the

Custodian of Enemy Properties in Bombay for loss of property in former East Pakistan and has already received a sum of approximately Rs. 10 lakhs from the Custodian.

**Recruitment in R.B.I., Nagpur**

**\*176. SHRI S. W. DHABE:**  
**SHRI N. K. BHATT:**

Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of persons who were recruited by the Nagpur branch of the Reserve Bank of India as typists, coin-note examiners and Grade II clerks from the 1st January, 1973 to the 30th June, 1976;

(b) whether recruitment of the above mentioned staff was made by inviting applications through advertisements in newspapers or from the Employment Exchange; and

(c) what is the number of persons from among the staff so recruited, who are (i) local residents and (ii) residents of other States?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the number of candidates recruited in the Nagpur Office of the Bank during the period 1st January, 1973 to 30th June, 1976 is as under:—

Clerks Grade II Coin-note examiners	
Grade II (Combined Cadre)	76
Typists	9

(b) Application for post in common cadre of Clerks Grade II/Coin Note Examiners Grade II and that for Typists were invited by the Bank through advertisement in the press. The Employment Exchanges were also notified of the vacancies.

(c) All those who have been recruited, except one in the cadre of