

(a) the reasons for which the Head Offices of Reserve Bank, State Bank, L.I.C., I.O.C. are all concentrated in one city only viz Bombay.

(b) whether any proposal to shift some of these offices to other Metropolitan cities like Calcutta and Madras is under Government's consideration; and

(c) if as, the details of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE/
वित्त मंत्री (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN):

(a) As Bombay is the principal commercial and financial centre in the country, the central office of the Reserve Bank has been located in this city. The State Bank of India, when it was established, took over the business of Imperial Bank of India which had its Central Office in Bombay and the Life Insurance Corporation similarly took over the life business of several Insurance Companies with Head Offices in the city. It was, therefore, convenient to locate the Central Office of both these institutions in Bombay. As regards the Indian Oil Corporation, its Marketing Division is located in Bombay, the important reasons being availability of port and storage facilities and proximity to large consumption centres. The Refineries and Pipeline Divisions of the Indian Oil Corporation have their Head Office in Delhi.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

DEMONETISATION TO BRING OUT BLACK MONEY

122 SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FINANCE/ वित्त मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of black money unearthed during the last 2 years;

(b) whether Government are considering demonetisation as a measure

to bring out black money and for removing disparity in income; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE/
वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI K. R.

GANESH): (a) The amount of black money unearthed during 1969-70 and 1970-71 is Rs. 95,00,000 and 1,40,000 respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government does not consider that such a step is necessary. The Government is, however, constantly engaged in the task of detecting tax evasion, through various legal and administrative measures. The objective of removing disparity in incomes is sought to be achieved through highly progressive taxes on incomes and wealth and through various institutional devices adopted with a view to curb concentration of economic power.

AID INDIA CONSORTIUM ASSISTANCE FOR BANGLA DESH REFUGEES IN INDIA

123. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:
SHRI B. N. MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE/
वित्त मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Aid India Consortium at its meeting in Paris on October 26, 1971 assessed the cost of relief needed by India to meet the impact of refugee influx from Bangla Desh during the financial year ending March, 1972 at Rs. 525 crores;

(b) the amount of assistance pledged by the Consortium towards this relief in addition to the normal development assistance; and

(c) whether the promised assistance will be in the form of grants or loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE/
वित्त मंत्री (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Special Meeting of the Aid India Consortium assessed the total cost supporting the East Bengla refugees in India for the financial year ending March, 1972 at \$ 700 million which is Rs. 525 crores.

(b) The members of the Aid India Consortium have so far pledged a total of about Rs. 133 crores for rendering assistance to the refugees. No new pledges were announced at the meeting; but it is expected that fresh pledges will be announced as a result of this meeting.

(c) The Consortium members agreed that "considering the nature of the problem" assistance for refugees "should be preferably be in the form of grants".

REPORT ON OIL EXPLORATION

124. DR K. MATHEW KURIAN:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by Government to suggest broad outlines of policies for oil exploration in India and neighbouring countries has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) the action taken, if any, by Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और

रसायन मंत्री (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) No such Committee was appointed. If the reference is to Malaviya Committee which was appointed to review the working of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, the position is that it has still to give its report.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

12 Noon

STATEMENT BY MINISTER CORRECTING ANSWER TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 896 DATED THE 10TH AUGUST, 1971

CENTRAL DUES FROM SUGAR FACTORIES IN STATES

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE/ वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (SHRIMATI SUSHILA

ROHATGI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Shri K. R. Ganesh I beg to make the following statement.

In the reply given by me on the 10th August, 1971 to part (a) and (b) of the Unstarred Question No. 896 by the hon. Member Shri J. S. Tilak, it was stated that a sum of Rs. 20.33 lakhs was due to Government as Central Excise duty from various States. A Statement showing the factory-wise figures of Central Excise duty due to Government from such sugar factories had also been annexed.

2. As a result of additional information received later from the field formations, it is reported that the total arrears were Rs. 20.39 lakhs.

3. The correct reply to the part (a) and (b) of the question and the correct 'Statement' showing the amounts of Central Excise duty due from the Sugar factories in various States should, therefore, be as under:

"(a) and (b) It is a fact that a sum of Rs. 20.39 lakhs is due to Government as Central Excise duty from Sugar factories in the various States. A statement showing the factory-wise figures of Central Excise duty due to Government from such Sugar factories is annexed."