

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Only one case involving the seizure of 255.5 grammes of gold was detected in Gwalior town by Central Excise Officers during the period January to June, 1963, for alleged non-declaration by an individual; this case is under investigation.

JUTE IN CALCUTTA GODOWN OF S.T.C.

*398. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 7th August, 1963, where it was mentioned that the jute bought by the State Trading Corporation for about rupees one crore last year had remained unsold till then at its Calcutta godown and that jute might deteriorate and become unfit for use if kept stored any longer;

(b) if so, what are the facts of the case; and

(c) what steps are being taken to dispose of the jute?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH):

(a) to (c) Government have seen the press report referred to. As on the 28th August, 1963, the State Trading Corporation had stocks of jute totalling 131292 quintals (3,51,761 maunds). This jute has not deteriorated. Arrangements have been made by the Corporation for the disposal of these stocks to the mills.

MINISTERS VISITING FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*399. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Union Ministers and State Ministers who visited foreign countries during the last six months;

(b) the purpose of their visits and the amount of foreign exchange involved in their travel;

(c) whether some public men also were sent abroad by Government; and

(d) if so, their names, purpose of their visit and expenses incurred on them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) to (d) The necessary information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House at an early date.

DIRECTION TO RESERVE BANK FOR REFUSING OVERDRAFTS TO ASSAM

*406. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have directed the Reserve Bank of India to refuse further overdrafts to the Government of Assam; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

CONDONATION OF BREAK IN SERVICES OF HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES

*407. SHRI LALJI PENDSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees from each hospital under the Delhi Administration applied for the condonation of break in their services during the last five years;

(b) how many of the applications were accepted or are pending consideration; and

(c) how many of the applications were rejected and on what grounds?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) Only 6 from Irwin Hospital.

(b) 4; none under consideration.

(c) 2, which were not covered by rules.

PAYMENT OF PENSIONS TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

*408. SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the present system of grant of pension to Government servants the pension calculated is reduced by a third and this is paid in a lump sum to the pensioner in the form of gratuity;

(b) whether the pensioner continues to draw the reduced pension even after the amount paid as gratuity has been recovered by Government in about ten years' time; and

(c) whether Government propose to restore the full pension after the amount paid as gratuity has been recovered by Government, as has been demanded by the pensioners all over India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The questions do not arise.

GAZETTED OFFICERS IN THE SECURITY PRESSES

*409. SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gazetted Officers working in the Security Presses under the Ministry of Finance; and

(b) the number of those amongst them who belong to Scheduled Castes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Eleven.

(b) One.

†GRANTS TO CIVIL FACTORIES FOR EXPANSION

*329. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grants or subsidies are given to the civil factories which are given orders by the Defence Department to meet defence requirements so that they can expand their range and extent of production and do not reduce their supply to meet civil requirements;

(b) Whether it is a fact that the supply of steel products for civil needs has been considerably reduced since the start of emergency;

(c) whether shortage in supply has occurred in regard to other commodities; and

(d) what Government propose to do to broaden the industrial base on the civil side during the time of the emergency?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI JAI SUKH LAL HATHI): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

No grant or subsidy as envisaged by the Member has been given to any Civil factory engaged on defence production.

Supplies of certain categories of steel such as G.C. sheets and of certain other commodities like abestos sheets and woollen goods for civil

†Transferred from the 29th August, 1963.