

248. *[Withdrawn.]*

COMPLAINT REGARDING DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS BY BANKS

249. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any complaint regarding destruction of old records by Banks prior to the instructions or directions of the Reserve Bank of India with a view to suppress information or make investigation of certain matters difficult; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on receipt of the complaint?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Two complaints one in 1961 and another in 1962 were received from a firm in Bombay about the destruction of records by a scheduled bank.

(b) The bank had been given permission to destroy some of the records referred to in the complaint and the question of taking any action did not therefore arise. As regards other records, instructions have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India to all the banking companies suggesting that certain specified records should be preserved for a period of not less than ten years preceding the current year.

DELEGATIONS GOING ABROAD WITHOUT FOREIGN EXCHANGE ALLOCATION

250. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of delegations have recently been allowed to go to foreign countries without any foreign exchange allocation; and

(b) if so, how they are expected to manage during their stay abroad: without any foreign exchange allocation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b) No

delegation is permitted to go abroad without sufficient coverage of foreign exchange. All delegations have either the facility of release of foreign exchange from their own resources or, when these delegations go abroad on specific invitations from foreign Governments, organizations or institutions etc., they have the facility of hospitality from host institutions.

251. *[Transferred to the 5th September, 1963.]*

SUB-SOIL WATER IN NEW DELHI

252. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a chemical analysis of the sub-soil water in New Delhi has been carried out by Government; and

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at regarding the suitability of the sub-soil water for drinking and irrigation purposes?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) and (b) Yes. An Ad-hoc Committee appointed by this Ministry to investigate the sub-soil water table conditions in New Delhi had chemically examined water samples from open wells and tube wells in different parts of New Delhi and had found that the salt content in most cases was too high for use of the water for irrigation. Representative samples of water from tube-wells are now being tested every three months and wherever feasible, water is being used for irrigation of lawns. The water in almost all cases is too salty for drinking purposes.

EX-SERVICEMEN IN C.P.W.D.

253. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ex-servicemen employed in the Central Public Works Department as on 1st August, 1963;

(b) whether their past services have been taken into consideration