

(b) whether the loans under the Scheme are given to the members through their Units or at the place of their residence which is far away from the place of their posting?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): (a) and (b). The Low Income Group Housing Scheme is administered through the State Governments/Union Administrations in whose territorial jurisdiction the construction is contemplated. Loans under the Scheme are given to eligible persons (including members of the Armed Forces) in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme and the detailed rules formulated by State Governments/Union Administrations. No provision has been made for disbursement of loans to members of the Armed Forces through their Units.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know, Sir, how many persons in the Defence Forces did avail of this opportunity through the State Governments?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: I have not got the figures regarding that.

\*175. [Transferred to the 9th December, 1958.]

DR. R. B. GOUR: What has happened to my question? I did not ask for postponement of Question No. 175. I must know the reason.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been transferred to some other date.

DR. R. B. GOUR: But in this case it should not be put last because it is not a transfer at my request. It should not be put at the end of the list. If it is at the Minister's request, it should be put earlier.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Another Ministry has taken over this question for answer. You will get enough time to put supplementaries.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will you allow me to raise a point of order?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No points of order now.

BOOT-LEGGING PRACTICE IN DELHI FOR  
SMUGGLING IMPORTED SPIRITS TO  
PROHIBITED AREAS

\*176. SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is large scale boot-legging going on in Delhi and imported spirits smuggled to prohibited areas; and

(b) if so, what action Government are taking to stop the practice?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Is it not a fact that certain gangs are being unearthed by the Delhi Police in connection with the smuggling of spirituous liquor from Delhi to prohibited areas in recent months?

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: I am not aware.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Is it not a fact that liquor bottles were found in air packages booked from Delhi to Bombay labelled 'Government Records—Confidential'?

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: Well, I notice that the sale of foreign liquor has been progressively declining. It was about 20,000 bulk gallons in 1956-57; about 15,877 in 1957-58; and during the last 7 months it has come to 7,400 only. That does not show that there is much of illicit sale.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 177.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Before I answer this question, with your permission may I refer to the question asked by hon. Member, Shri Bhupesh Gupta, about that particular case? I am sorry I am not aware of the facts, but I will look into it and if the Member tables a question or if he supplies . . .

†vide col. 668 supra.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** I think the hon. Minister would be good enough to furnish the information to the House by way of making a statement to the House tomorrow.

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** How tomorrow?

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** Telephone Madras.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order, order. Next question.

**DIRECT LOANS TO PRIVATE FIRMS IN INDIA BY U.S. EXPORT-IMPORT BANK**

\*177. **SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States Export-Import Bank has asked the Government of India to facilitate making of direct loans to private business firms in India by the Bank; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to make such loans possible?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT):** (a) and (b). When the President of the U.S. Export-Import Bank was in India recently, he mentioned the possibility of direct loans to Indian firms in his talks with Government. This is however a matter to be considered upon the merits of the project involved and settled when there are any negotiations for such loans.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** May I know, Sir, whether it is not a settled policy of the Export-Import Bank of the United States that advances should be generally made to the private sector and for strengthening the private sector?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** Usually, the Export-Import Bank gives loans to the projects in the private sector. But last year, they made a special concession—or made a departure from their policy—when they granted

a loan of 150 million dollars to the Government of India which was for both—some part of it for the private sector and some part for the public sector.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** May I know whether the Government is aware that some gentlemen of the private sector visited the United States of America and had confabulations with the Chairman of that particular Bank and if so, whether they submitted any report to the Government and whether such a visit was sanctioned by the Government?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** If the hon. Member's question is very specific about the name of the person, I may be able to answer that. But, generally, I am not aware of it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** He tries to avoid mentioning names. You are forcing him to mention them.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** Gentlemen of the Birla Mission—a great galaxy of fifteen or sixteen gentlemen—when they were in the United States of America, met the Chairman of this particular Bank and had a discussion and after that made a statement in the United States of America itself and also said something about that in their report. Firstly, I would like to know whether all these transactions, negotiations and discussions had taken place with the previous sanction of the Government of India, and secondly, after the detailed discussion had taken place, whether this has been reported to the Government.

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** We know of these things when a specific request is made to the Government, because in any such foreign transaction where foreign exchange is involved, the Government . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Finance Minister is about to answer.

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** May I say, Sir, that no such transactions can take place without the approval of