

### COLLECTIONS UNDER THE SMALL SAVINGS DRIVE

\*13. **SHRI J. H. JOSHI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected under the Small Savings Drive during the period from April 1957, to January 1958; and

(b) how it compares with the amount of savings for the corresponding period during the previous year?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT):** (a) and (b). The total net collections during the period April, 1957 to January, 1958 amount to Rs. 37.6 crores approximately, as against Rs. 44.8 crores during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

### SMALL SAVINGS DRIVE

\*14. **SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether any State has exceeded the target fixed for collections under the Small Savings Drive so far during the year 1957-58?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT):** A net collection of Rs. 80 crores was assumed for Small Savings during the year 1957-58. No State-wise targets were fixed and the question of any State exceeding such target does not, therefore, arise.

**SHRI J. H. JOSHI:** It shows that there is a slight fall in the small savings compared with the previous year. May I know the reasons for that?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** It is true that this year's net collections are lower than the corresponding period of last year, and the decline is mainly in postal savings. It is very difficult to state precisely the reasons for this decline but broadly speaking, they can be described as due to continued rise in prices and cost of living with

consequent reduction in the capacity to save particularly by the smaller people, then increased propensity for investments in commodities instead of in securities as a result of rise in prices, then shift in income from urban to rural areas and also diversion of investments to commercial banks which are offering higher rate of interest. These are some of the reasons.

**SHRI J. H. JOSHI:** May I know how much of this has been drawn from the investments of provident fund contributions?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** He asks: How much of this collection has been drawn from the investments in provident funds?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** I am sorry I am not in a position to give these details.

**SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO:** Which is the State that has made the maximum collection and which the minimum collection?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** I don't know. Maximum with reference to what? After all, the capacity and sizes of the States differ. For example, Bombay's collections during the year 1957-58, that is to say, up to December are Rs. 8 crores. This, Bombay has been contributing, because it is in a position to contribute.

**SHRI H. D. RAJAH:** Is it true that consequent on the Tahsildars and other subordinate officers under the direction of the Collector engaging themselves in the collection of small savings from people, the normal work of the Tahsildars and others is suffering very much and therefore, people are not able to get things done quickly? Secondly, is it true that owing to the coercion being used on villagers there is much resistance and there is incapacity to pay to the small savings?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** Normally small savings is a concern of the