

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH): (a), (b) and (c). Except for a sum of Rs. 47.18 lakhs of the Railway Revenue Reserve Fund invested in loans and shares of Branch Line Companies the balances of the various Depreciation and Reserve Funds are not invested but kept with Government. As regards the Cash Balance Investment Account, the securities held on the 31st March 1947, 1952 and 1953 amounted to Rs. 61.96 crores, Rs. 47.81 crores and Rs. 64.96 crores respectively and they were all Central Government Securities.

CASH BALANCE INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

329. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the market value of the investments in Treasury Account (Cash Balance Investment Account) on the 31st March of each year since 1948;

(b) the cost price of the same investments on the above dates; and

(c) the rate of interest earned on these investments in each year?

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH):

(a)

(In crores of Rupees.)

31 March 1948	65.94
31 March 1949	44.87
31 March 1950	45.77
31 March 1951	22.99
31 March 1952	47.14
31 March 1953	62.81

(b) The information is not readily available.

(c) This varies from loan to loan actually held in the account and ranged from 2½ per cent to 4½ per cent.

GAZETTED WOMEN OFFICERS

330. COL. C. S. R. ANGRE: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many women officers are at present working in the gazetted category in the various departments of the Government of India; and

(b) whether their number has increased since the attainment of independence; if so, by how much?

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

LOWER GONDWANA ROCKS OF LISH VALLEY IN DARJEELING

350-A. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state the result of the examination of the lower Gondwana rocks of Lish Valley in Darjeeling?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Council.

STATEMENT

Results of the Examination of the Lower Gondwana Rocks of Lish Valley in Darjeeling.

An examination of the three blocks in the Himalayan foot hills situated in the Yangmakum Khasmahal lands and the Chel Reserved Forest area in Darjeeling district was undertaken by the Geological Survey of India in November 1952, with a view to find out whether mining operations in this area would affect the stability of the hill slope. The study revealed,—

(i) that mining operations could be undertaken without undue danger to the stability of the hill slope;