

the year 1952 amounted to Rs. 245·7 crores.

(b) The total amount of securities held by the Reserve Bank of India as cover for advances to the scheduled banks as at the end of December 1951, December 1952, January 1953, and February 1953 were of the face value of Rs. 44·3 crores, Rs. 74·9 crores, Rs. 63·6 crores and Rs. 74·8 crores, respectively.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: How much of the advances made was outstanding at the end of the year from the scheduled banks?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: The usual practice is that a certain amount is made available for the banks to take as advance. But they do not take the advance all at a time. They often draw and repay and again draw. For the year 1950-51, I have got the figures with me. At the end of the year 1950 only Rs. 13 · 72 crores and at the end of the year 1951 Rs. 76·57 crores were left with the banks as advances.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not a fact, Sir, that advances are being made on different accounts—on several accounts?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: Yes, on different accounts.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Sir, apart from the advances that are being made for the ordinary routine expenditure of the banks, are not advances made against bills and drafts?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: All these are covered by the Reserve Bank Act—I think section 17—and that section will give the hon. Member all the information required by him.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not a fact, Sir, that large outstandings are still to be recovered from the advances made against bills?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: It may be so. Sir, I have no information just at present. I would like to have notice

if the hon. Member wants any particular information.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is interest being charged on these advances?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: Surely, Sir; at the usual bank rate.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE BETWEEN INDIA AND GOA

•351. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that labourers from the Indian territory now engaged in the mining industry in Goa are unable to make remittances of money to India owing to lack of money exchange facilities;

(b) whether it is a fact that Indian currency is not available in Goa territory for exchange; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI A. C. GUHA) : (a) Government have received reports that labourers from Indian territory engaged in mining industry in Goa are experiencing difficulties in exchanging Portuguese Indian currency into Indian currency. Government understand, however, that adequate facilities exist for remittances to India by money orders.

(b) According to Government's information, there is enough Indian currency in Goa for being exchanged 'for Portuguese Indian currency

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Has **not**, Sir, a representation been made on behalf of the labourers that there is not sufficient currency available?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: Sir, I have already stated that the Government have received reports from the labourers. So there must have been some representation from the labourers.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Have the Government ensured that the representations are true and that some effort on the part of Government is called for to remedy the situation?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: Sir, the position is that it is open for the Indian mine owners to remit their money by money order and the Portuguese post offices accept money orders only in Portuguese Indian currency. So there is no difficulty for those Indian miners to remit their money. And as I have stated in reply to part (c) of the question, the question does not arise as to what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation. Already the position has been found to be satisfactory and the Government has also consulted the Consul General for India in Goa.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Has it not been represented to the Government, Sir, that in many of these remittances to India they are compelled to buy Indian currency at black market prices?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: No, Sir. I have no such information. Rather the information is that the Portuguese post offices accept money orders only in Portuguese Indian currency in which these Indian miners are paid.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: May I know the exchange rate now existing?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: I would like to have notice.

ADMISSION AGE TO DELHI COLLEGES

*352. SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no Student is allowed admission into colleges in Delhi unless he has completed his sixteenth year; and if so, the reasons therefor:

(b) whether such age restriction regarding admission in colleges prevails in any other Universities in India; and if so, which; and

(c) what is the average annual number of students who are denied admission into colleges in Delhi on the ground that they are below sixteen?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SHRI K. D. MALA-VIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The age limit has been fixed by the Delhi University under its own powers in the interests of the health of the students and of maintenance of proper standards of University education. This rule is calculated to prevent boys and girls of immature -age from seeking admission to the University.

(b) Complete information in respect of all Universities in India is not readily available. But it appears that certain Indian Universities, e.g. Andhra, Madras, Osmania and Travancore Universities have prescribed minimum age limits for admission either to the Matriculation Examination or to the University courses.

(c) The colleges in Delhi do not maintain a list of students who are denied admission on account of the age restriction imposed by the Delhi University. The average annual number of students who passed the Higher Secondary Examination during the last three years before attaining the age of 16 years is 117.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Have the Government satisfied themselves that in the interests of the health of the students the minimum age limit should be fixed at 16?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The Universities are autonomous bodies. They are perfectly within their rights to impose age limits for admission into Universities and therefore Government express no opinion on it. I personally think that it is a very wise decision of the University.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: In reply to a question the hon. Minister stated that it was within the competence of the Delhi University. He also went on to