

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : I have already answered that question.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : Will the hon. Minister let us know whether these teachers are Indians or foreigners?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : Both.

RATE OF EXCHANGE

*104. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of exchange agreed upon between the Indian and the Nepalese rupee ; and

(b) the period during which such rate is to be in force ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH) : (a) There is no agreed rate between the Indian rupee and the Nepalese rupee but the Government of Nepal are understood to have made arrangements recently for the supply of Indian currency at the rate of 100 Indian rupees to 128 Nepalese rupees to traders wishing to import certain specified essential goods from India.

(b) No time limit has been fixed.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Is the Indian rupee current in Nepal ?

SHRI M. C. SHAH : It is current in certain parts of Nepal.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : There are the trade channels that are being now made between Nepal and India. Has the Government any responsibility for fixing the exchange rate ?

SHRI M. C. SHAH : No. It is the Nepalese Government's responsibility.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Will the hon. Minister inform us whether the Government of India placed safeguards to protect the interests of the Indian merchants, and taken steps to see that a fair rate of exchange is got for the Indian rupee ?

SHRI M. C. SHAH : It has been done. Rs. 128 Nepalese for Rs. 100 Indian. I think it is a fair rate.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Since when is this rate of exchange in force ?

SHRI M. C. SHAH : 19th September 1952.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 105†. The Member is not present.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE : I put the question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Which question ?

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE : Question No. 105, standing in the name of Shri Gopinath Singh.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Have you been authorised ?

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE : Yes, Sir. I am authorised.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But where is the letter ? You must give me his letter of authorisation.

Question No. 106. Shri Deogirikar.

PUBLIC RECEPTIONS

*106. SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether military officers are under their service rules allowed to accept public receptions ;

(b) if so, whether there is any restriction on their speeches while replying to the welcome addresses ; and

(c) whether any permission from superior authority is required to be taken before accepting such receptions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) : (a) to (c). There are no specific rules for military officers as such, but generally rules for the civil officers have been

†For answer to Question No. 105 *vide* column 38 *infra*.