

स्कीम को आपने बन्द किया उस के बन्द करने के पूर्व जिन सन्सक्राइबर्स ने उस में हिस्सा लिया और अपना कुछ रुपया उस में दे दिया था उन की रकम उनको वापस दिलाने के लिये या उनको बचाने के लिये शासन क्या कदम उठा रहा है ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We shall look into this firstly and if we see that any action under the Penal Code is necessary, we will take action against them.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, from the hon. Minister whether it is in the knowledge of the Ministry that this scheme was running in Madras for a number of years, they permitted it to run and only when a request was made to extend the scheme to Delhi the Ministry examined it and said that it was an illegal scheme?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is because Delhi comes under the Central Government. Madras comes within the purview of the State Government.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: May I ask the hon. Minister of Finance to enumerate some loopholes by which the public would be duped by these lucky draw schemes?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The Delhi Administration has warned the public that the scheme is illegal and they should not subscribe to it. We contemplate even taking legal action.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Why not stop it?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It has been stopped.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: There is advertisement in the Delhi Transport buses.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: May I know whether prosecutions have been launched against those firms which are acting illegally and which have defrauded the public?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: So far no prosecution has been launched, but we are examining the matter from the legal aspect.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: May I ask if the scheme is still being worked in Madras and it has only been prohibited in Delhi or whether it has been prohibited in Madras also?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I want notice for that. I do not have information whether it is working there or not, but if it is illegal it should be illegal there also.

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: May I ask the Minister if he is aware that the lucky draw scheme is running throughout the country? There are advertisements in the buses and everywhere else even now.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: She may be referring to the chit funds, but the lucky draw scheme could never be operative now after it has been declared illegal.

*417. [The questioner (Shri Jagan-nath Prasad) was absent. For answer, vide col 2528 infra.]

*418. [Transferred to the 29th November, 1965.]

*419. [The questioner (Shri Ram-gopal Gupta) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2530 infra.]

*420. [The questioner (Shri Sitaram Jaipuria) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2531 infra.]

ANNUITY CERTIFICATES

f SHRIMATI TARA RAM- *421 J
CHANDRA SATHE: त " ~) SHRIMATI
LALITHA I (RAJAGOPALAN):

Will the Minister of FINANCE be-
pleased to state:

(a) within what period of the payment of
annuity by the assessee under

i fThe question was actually asked' j on the floor
of the House by Shrimati I Tara Ramchandra
Sathe.

the annuity scheme the certificates are issued;

(b) whether Government are aware that thousands of assesseees did not get the certificates within even six months;

(c) what are the reasons for this delay; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the income-tax authorities do not recognise the annuity payment unless the counter-foil of the relevant certificate is sent to the income-tax authorities?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) Normally the certificates should be issued within two to three months of "the date of deposit. However, owing to an unprecedented and disproportionately heavy concentration of work at a single office of the Reserve Bank there was disruption of the schedule. The position was further aggravated by many of the depositors asking for a large number of certificates of lower denomination resulting in avoidable time—consuming clerical work. The back log in the issue of the certificates has been cleared except in two offices. Every thing possible is being done to clear up the arrears and to minimise the inconvenience to the public.

(d) Government have not received any complaint to this effect.

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE: When the time fixed is only two months, will the Government see that the assesseees will not be put to any trouble, if these annuity certificates are not issued to the assesseees?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The Income-tax Officers can be asked to accept, in the meanwhile, temporary receipts that have been given to the assesseees, if necessary.

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE: Is the Government aware that the income-tax authorities do not acknowledge the receipt of the coun-

terfoils, even when they are sent by registered post?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have not received any complaints to this effect.

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE: They do not acknowledge receipt of the counterfoils, if there is no certificate available. When the counterfoil is sent to them, the Income-tax Officers should be asked to acknowledge it.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am not aware of it.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: In view of the fact that the annuity deposit scheme is a very heavy burden on persons who cannot save because of the high cost of living today, is the Government thinking of revising the scheme, so that there may not be any hardship on the people?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This is a matter of budgetary policy, which the hon. Finance Minister deals with, and even if he thinks so he may not say anything.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether any cases have come to his knowledge where Income-tax Officers for lack of proper instructions have refused to accept provisional payment for annuity certificates?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have said that in view of the final receipt or counterfoil of that receipt not being available because of this delay, they should accept the temporary certificates given at the time of the deposits, and I have not received any complaints regarding this. But if the hon. Member has something I will certainly look into it.

INTEGRATED PROGRAMME OF MEDICAL FACILITIES IN DELHI

•422. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 137 in the Rajya Sabha