

received all over India, and in case there is no emergency how will that fund be disposed of ultimately?

Shri Morarji Desai: During the first quarter the income that has been received is Rs. 9 crores. That is the premium received; that is the criterion. Therefore, at that rate, it will be Rs. 36 crores. But I am proposing to reduce it in view of the danger being less now. If it increases it will be increased again. Therefore, I cannot give the complete estimate just now.

Shri Tyagi: I further wanted to know how it will be disposed of in case there is no emergency at all in due course?

Shri Morarji Desai: It will certainly be disposed of by merging it in the Consolidated Fund.

Gold Prices and Gold Smuggling

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*307. { **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Dr. Mahadeva Prasad:
Shri Heda:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Bade:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:
Shri J. B. S. Bist:
Shri Berwa Kotah:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Y. S. Chaudhary:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the level at which the gold prices have been brought down since the promulgation of Gold Control Order; and

(b) the further measures Government propose to take to achieve their aim to stop gold-smuggling into the country?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Gold was quoted at Rs. 129.90 per ten grammes on August 29, 1962, but since then prices have fallen appreciably, and the latest quotations are around Rs. 96.

(b) It is not possible at this stage to indicate the further action which Government is likely to take.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Are the Government considering the feasibility of putting a ceiling on the possession of ornaments of greater purity than 14 carat in order to prevent the smuggling of gold more effectively?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Part (b) of the reply takes care of that. We cannot give any specific answer at this stage.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: I seek your protection. I would like to know...

Mr. Speaker: The Finance Minister said yesterday that there are certain further steps that he proposes to take and this might be one of those steps that are being contemplated. So, how can that be disclosed?

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: What are the measures that have been adopted or are going to be adopted to strictly regulate the working of gold refineries and gold ornament manufacturing shops to see that they are not enabled to utilise the smuggled gold?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): They are asked to keep accounts and asked to show from whom they have bought and what they have done with it, and if anything wrong is found, the whole thing is to be forfeited and they will be sent to jail for seven years.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know if the amount of gold which has come into Government's possession through investment in gold bonds has been up to expectation and whether there

is any proposal to make this investment in gold bonds more attractive?

Shri Morarji Desai: Government does not give any expectations in nebulous matters. Therefore, whatever has come has come. Rs. 8 crores have come.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Why nebulous?

Shri Morarji Desai: Who can say how much can come, and who can say who will give it? When I do not know how much gold my hon. friend has, how can I say?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Whatever I have, I will give you. You had better give yours in exchange. Let us have a fair exchange. I will give whatever I have got. You give yours to me. You have more than I have.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : आप ने स्वर्ण नियंत्रण के सम्बन्ध में देहातों में साहित्य अंग्रेजी में छपवा कर बटवाया है जहां ७५ प्रतिशत लोग अनपढ़ हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या उम साहित्य को हिन्दी या प्रान्तीय भाषाओं में छपवा कर बटवाने का प्रयत्न सरकार करेगी ?

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप को सोने से क्या मतलब ?

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : तुम को एक क्षेत्र की फिक्र है लेकिन मुझे तो सारे देश की चिन्ता है।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : कल माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने सोने की बहस का जवाब देते हुए बतलाया था कि जब तक लोगों में स्वयं चेतना पैदा नहीं होगी तब तक स्मर्गलिंग नहीं रोका जा सकता। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस प्रकार की चेतना लोगों में पैदा करने के लिए सरकार क्या प्रयत्न कर रही है ? और क्या मंत्रीजी को यह मालूम है कि दिल्ली में ही सोना १४० और १५० रुपये के भाव से बिक रहा है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी अभी चार घंटे की बहस में सारी बातें तो बतला दी गयीं, लेकिन फिर आप वही बात पूछते हैं।

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I enquired about the price also. It is selling at Rs. 150 per tola now. The Minister says it is Rs. 96 only; it is selling at a much higher rate everywhere.

Shri Morarji Desai: May I know if the hon. Member has made a purchase at Rs. 150? Then I would know. (Interruption). There are no sales. I have given the information which I have got after enquiry. If any hon. Member has any other information and if he informs me about it, I will take steps about it.

Shri Ranga: However eminent a place a Minister may hold in this Government, is it permissible for a Minister to put a question to an hon. Member here or is it our privilege to put a question to the Minister?

Mr. Speaker: The privilege is of the hon. Members to put a question and the Minister has the privilege to answer it. But sometimes the answer is to be given in a form which appears to be a question to the hon. Member. It is only an answer.

Shri Ranga: You are nullifying the earlier ruling that you have given.

Mr. Speaker: Then I am sorry.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: The hon. Member here has said that he has found that gold is selling at a higher price. Will Government make an enquiry about this, because many people have said that gold is selling at much higher prices than what the Minister has said?

Mr. Speaker: That is only a suggestion for action.

Shri Thirumala Rao: When there are such difficult times, it was customary to keep track of the prices of commodities like gold, etc. Government were quoting black-market prices for foodgrains at certain stages. Is there any machinery in Government to keep track of the price of

gold and see how it is selling in the black-market?

Shri Morarji Desai: There is no question of Government keeping track of black-market prices. If Government is able to do that, Government can stop the black-market also. I do not understand how that is to be done. Things are reported and they are enquired into; whatever information is feasible is given. This is the result of the enquiry. That the present price is about Rs. 96. If anybody has any other information, I am prepared to follow it up provided he gives me that information.

High Power Commissions for Water and Power

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- *308. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up high power commissions for water and power as suggested by the Minister of Economic and Defence Coordination in New Delhi in February, 1963; and

(b) if so, what will be the purpose of these commissions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power Shri Alagesan: (a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : मंत्री जी ने अपने बयान में बतलाया कि पानी का पूरी तरह इस्तेमाल नहीं होता है और बिजली की जो कमी है वह पूरी नहीं होती है तो फिर इस को ठीक करने के लिए सरकार क्या इंतजाम खोज रही है ?

Shri Alagesan: I am not able to follow.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: The Minister stated in his statement that the water 2891(Ai) LSD—2.

is not utilised fully and there is dearth of power. What does the Government do in this matter?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know what the hon. Member has in mind.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: As regards irrigation facilities, in DVC the water is misused and that water is not being used for irrigation purposes. Do Government propose to take any steps in this regard?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know how it arises out of this question. Yet, I should like to say that the water is not being misused by DVC. In fact, it is being used by the West Bengal Government and more than 6 lakh acres have been irrigated out of the Durgapur barrage water.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: If there is no such proposal, may I know what is the substitute at present in the Ministry for the Commission of the British days which used to assess the development of power in the country?

Shri Alagesan: There is the Central Water and Power Commission, which is a highly technical body. It takes care of all the water and power projects and coordination. I do not know how he says it is a body of the British days.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, इस प्रश्न में मिनिस्टर आफ एकोनामिक्स एंड डिफेंस को-ऑरडिनेशन के एक भाषण का उल्लेख किया गया है और अब दूसरे मंत्री महोदय ने उस से इंकार कर दिया है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह मंत्री महोदय क्या आपस में बातचीत करने के बाद कोई वक्तव्य दिया करते हैं या अपनी ही इच्छा से एक फिलासफर की तरह वक्तव्य दे दिया करते हैं ?

Shri Alagesan: The hon. Minister of Economic and Defence Coordination was invited to inaugurate a session of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power. Certainly, there is no question of his consulting us