

change, does the Government propose devaluation of the rupee?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Finance Minister has discounted the idea. I think the question does not arise.

Shri P. R. Patel: The Bank Rate has been reduced in Great Britain, but the Bank rate of interest in our country is about 9 per cent and the market rate comes to 18 per cent. I want to know whether the cost of production in our country would be more than the cost of production in Great Britain and we could not send our goods outside the country.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I do not know where he got the figures 9 and 18. The Bank Rate, after reduction, is 6 per cent at both the places.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether India, being a member of the Commonwealth, was consulted formally or informally before the Bank Rate was reduced by the U. K. Government and if not, what are the obligations of being a member of the Commonwealth?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No obligation in this respect; neither Government consults the other.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यू० के० में बैंक रेट घट जाने के कारण भारतीय बैंकों पर यह असर पड़ा है कि वे नये रेटों की एनाउन्समेंट से पूर्व डिपॉजिट किये गये रुपये पर पुराने रेट का इन्ड्रस्ट देते हैं और एनाउन्समेंट से पूर्व दिये गए लोन पर नये रेट से इन्ड्रस्ट जार्ज करते हैं। मिसाल के तौर पर छपरा सेंट्रल बैंक में ऐसा किया गया है। और भी बैंकों में ऐसा हो रहा है।

श्री ब० रा० भगत : इंग्लैंड में क्या होता है, हमारे बैंक के डिपॉजिट रेट पर उस का कोई असर नहीं है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार यह

बता सकती है कि बैंक रेट में इस फर्क से हमें कितना नुकसान या फायदा हुआ है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : मैं ने कहा है कि इस का बहुत मामूली असर होगा।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: The control of bankers' money is understandable. But in a developing economy as we have in our country, is the Government aware that, for legitimate purposes, money has become scarce and if at all it is available, it is dear.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It has nothing to do with the going up or coming down of the Bank Rate in England.

Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: May I know whether it is a fact that, during this period, there has been increase in the rates of Indian banks and if so, why it was not possible to allow a proportionate reduction in the transaction of Indian banks?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We are not governed by the rates of U. K. Bank Act. We have our own independent judgment. We do it for our own economic considerations. It is true that recently the deposit rates of Indian banks have gone up.

Separate Plan for Agriculture

- *98. { **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 579 on the 25th March, 1965 and state:

(a) whether Government have considered a separate plan for agricultural production both at the Central and State levels in order to give more impetus to the agricultural production;

(b) if so, its salient features; and

(c) the final decision of Government in the matter?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) to (c). It is proposed to prepare a separate publication entitled "Agricultural Development in the Fourth Five Year Plan, 1966-71". The State Governments have been asked to make the details available for the purpose. A tentative table of contents of the proposed publication is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-4566/65].

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: The table is not available along with the statement. It has not been given to us.

Mr. Speaker: I shall find out then.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if the Government of India have fixed up some guiding principles or directives for the framing of this agricultural plan? If so, what are those guiding principles or directives which have been fixed for preparation of this plan and have they been communicated to the State Governments?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The State Governments have been asked to give full details of their scales and programmes covered under various heads of Agricultural Development. Also details about other programmes like major or minor irrigation, rural manpower development, fertiliser requirements and other industrial inputs required to fulfil those programmes have to be given. The Table of Contents gives all the details. I am sorry if my hon. friend has not got a copy of the same.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: I want to know whether any guiding principles have been laid down by the Planning Commission, and if so, what they are.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is difficult to give all the details, but broadly the Table of Contents specifies 32 heads under which these details have to be given. And as I said, broadly, all the schemes and programmes for agricultural development during the Fourth

Plan period have to be given along with the other requirements in regard to agriculture, whether it be man-power requirement or material requirement or industrial requirements and so on; these have to be provided in an integrated way.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is now over. Next item.

Shri Hem Barua: Could you please ask the Health Minister to answer Q. No. 99?

Mr. Speaker: I cannot ask her to reply. It is for her to make that request.

Shri Hem Barua: May I appeal to the hon. Health Minister to reply to Q. No. 99 relating to gastro-enteritis in Assam?

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry. We shall now take up the Calling-attention-notice.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Gastro-Enteritis in Assam

- *99. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaitya:
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:
Dr. Saradish Roy:
Shri B. Barua:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gastro-enteritis/cholera took a heavy toll of life in recent months in the Eastern Zone particularly in Assam;

(b) if so, the total number of deaths on this account since May, 1965 in that region as a whole and in Assam; and