

and Universities as equivalent to a degree in the particular subject; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to help the students who have passed these courses?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 5.]

#### Violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations

\*962. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:  
Shri Muhammed Elias:  
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that about a year ago premises of Messrs. Bharat Overseas Private Ltd., Calcutta were searched and documents regarding unauthorised foreign exchange dealings and balances held in foreign banks were discovered; and

(b) whether any further steps have been taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) There was a search of the premises of this company and possession was taken of certain documents.

(b) A directive under section 19(2) of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act was issued to the firm and its directors by the Director of Enforcement asking them to furnish certain information, particulars and documents. They have submitted their replies which are being looked into.

#### List of Scheduled Castes in Mysore

\*963. Shri Siddish: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 367 on the 21st August, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the Government of Mysore have sent their recommendations for exclusion from the list of

Scheduled Castes such of the communities as did not suffer from the stigma of untouchability; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Indian Foreign Service

\*964. Shri Dinesh Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether fewer candidates out of those sitting for the Combined Competitive Examination are now opting for I.F.S. as compared to previous years?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): The percentage of candidates who expressed first preference for the I.F.S. was lower at the Examinations held in 1956 and 1957 than at the Examinations held in 1954 and 1955.

#### Rural Institute in Punjab

\*965. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a rural institute is proposed to be started in Punjab with the assistance of U.S. Technical Co-operation Mission; and

(b) if so its location and when it would start functioning?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b). A proposal for starting a rural institute at a suitable place in Punjab is under examination. The Technical Co-operation Mission of the U.S.A. has not offered any assistance.

#### Employment of Foreigners

\*966. Shri S. A. Mahdi: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any restrictions on the employment of foreigners in India; and