

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

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). Foreigners are employed only when suitable Indians are not available. Such appointments are made on contract for the minimum period necessary and in the meantime Indians are trained for filling the posts.

Air Crash near Jamnagar

*967. { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shrimati Masida Ahmed:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri B. C. Prodhan:
Shri Dasaratha Deb:
Shri Halder:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Jet Plane crashed at Jamnagar while it was taking off for Delhi on the 23rd November, 1958; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The aircraft was being ferried from U.K. to India by a Royal Air Force pilot. At Jamnagar airfield it failed to take-off; and crashed at the end of the runway. The pilot was killed; and the aircraft was destroyed. A Court of Inquiry has been convened.

Credit Information Bureau

*968. Shri Bimal Ghose: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1292 on the 16th September, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the proposal for setting up a Credit Information Bureau under the Reserve Bank has been finalised; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of organisation and functions of this Bureau?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) No. The proposal is still under the consideration of the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) Does not arise at this stage.

Co-operative Bank Advances against Tea Crops

*969. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has asked Assam Co-operative Apex Bank to stop financing tea gardens against hypothecation of crop; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) The Reserve Bank of India have advised the Assam Government that the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank should concentrate on financing member cooperative institutions rather than individuals, partnerships and joint stock companies, whether tea gardens or otherwise.

(b) The main purpose of an apex bank is to finance the operations of affiliated cooperative institutions such as central cooperative banks and societies affiliated to it. It is not its function to finance firms and companies.

Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee

*970. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 552 on the 26th August, 1958 and state the further progress made by the Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): The Committee issued detailed questionnaires to the public and departmental officials on 31st August, 1958 covering the various aspects of Direct Taxes Administration. The last date originally fixed for receipt of replies was 31st October,