

Section of the Cabinet Secretariat prepared a Note on Foreign Investments in India and submitted it to the Cabinet some time in November, 1950; and

(b) whether Government propose to lay this memorandum on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

INDIA'S FOREIGN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

***524. Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the Reserve Bank of India submitted to Government in 1950 final results of its inquiry into the census of India's Foreign Assets and Liabilities;

(b) whether it is a fact that before releasing it to the public in November, 1950, certain portions of the Report were deemed to be treated as confidential and deleted from the publication as finally released; and

(c) would Government lay on the Table of the House a copy of the full report as submitted to Government by the Reserve Bank?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The only difference between the Confidential and the Published edition of the Report is that the Confidential edition contains more detailed statements and statistics in regard to the assets and liabilities. It is considered undesirable to give publicity to such information as the detailed particulars of foreign securities held by the Indian official agencies and of the holdings of Indian Government and semi-Government securities by non-residents. The assessment of the overall position of the foreign assets and liabilities as well as particulars given by Industries are substantially the same in the published and the confidential editions. Thus, details given in the published Report are regarded as adequate to give a correct picture of India's foreign assets and liabilities. Government regret that a copy of the Confidential edition cannot be placed on the Table of the House.

DUTY ON TOBACCO

***526. Shri K. R. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recent proposals of the Government of Uttar Pradesh for a

change in the method of assessment of the duty on tobacco; and

(b) what method has now been decided on by the Government for the assessment of that duty and when the new method is intended to be enforced.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Yes. Government have discussed with the Government of Uttar Pradesh a new procedure for the verification of the yield from tobacco plots in the State by the Central Excise Department.

(b) The matter is still under correspondence with the Government of Uttar Pradesh, but it has been agreed with the Government, that the essential features of the new method of registration of tobacco growers and verification of their yield should be as follows—

- (i) Cultivators of tobacco will have to register themselves with the Village Patwaris—stating *inter alia* the situation, area and estimated yield of their plots.
- (ii) Crop-cutting experiments will be systematized.
- (iii) Verification of the cultivator's declarations will be made by the Excise Inspector in the presence, as far as possible, of a Panch, Mukhia or other respectable resident of the village.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether this scheme is likely to be applied to other States also, especially Bihar?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Central Government is in correspondence with the States, and if the States agree, it is likely to be applied to them also.

Mr. Speaker: Next question, No. 528.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No. 527, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: It has been transferred to another date.

REGIONAL OFFICES

***528. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many regional offices of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Tribes and Castes are there in India?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): One office covering Assam, West Bengal, Manipur and Tripura with headquarters at Shillong is already functioning. Arrangements are being made to set up shortly three