

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) It is not in the public interest to divulge the specific steps taken to prevent smuggling of shares and securities or the possible ways in which such checks are evaded by smugglers. Very broadly it can be stated that the methods pursued in checking smuggling of shares and securities are similar to those pursued in prevention of smuggling of other commodities.

(b) It is not possible to root out this evil completely in spite of the best efforts to prevent smuggling.

HALI SIKKA CURRENCY STABILISATION RESERVE IN HYDERABAD

***2224. Shri H. G. Valshnav:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the extent of Hali Sikka Currency Stabilisation Reserve in Hyderabad State and the form in which it existed?

(b) Have the Government of India taken over the said reserves after the demonetisation of Hyderabad currency?

(c) Had the Government of India to bear any extra financial burden for providing I. G. Currency to Hyderabad State due to demonetisation?

(d) If so, to what extent?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The amount held in the Osmania Sikka Stabilisation Reserve is Rs. 3 crores in Hyderabad Currency and the whole of it is invested in Government of India securities.

(b) This Reserve which came over to the Centre on federal financial integration as part of the assets and liabilities of the currency system is held by the State Government on behalf of the Central Government.

(c) and (d). Currency became a Central subject with effect from the 1st April 1950 and the State Government have been managing it on behalf of the Central Government. The losses on the withdrawal of the local currency will fall on the Centre and the profits on the Indian currency by which it is replaced will accrue to the Centre, in the case of coins, and the Reserve Bank in the case of notes. It is impossible to give any figure of the net loss or gain at this stage.

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF SAURASHTRA, ETC.

***2225. Shri Buchhikotiah:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether any special Committee

was appointed by Government to go into the economic problems of Saurashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat and PEPSU?

(b) If so, who are its members and on what points have they to enquire?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). A copy of the Resolution issued by the Government of India on the 28th April 1953 containing the information asked for by the Member is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 18.]

INCOME-TAX INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

***2226. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Income-tax Investigation Commission after the initiation of the Disclosure Scheme;

(b) whether any cases were referred after Disclosure to the Income-tax Investigation Commission; and

(c) whether the Income-tax Investigation Commission is functioning at present?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The functions of the Income-tax Investigation Commission after the initiation of the Disclosure Scheme were the same as prior to the initiation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

APPOINTMENT OF INCOME-TAX OFFICERS

***2227. Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that educational qualifications have been relaxed in favour of Scheduled Castes and Tribes candidates for appointment to the 215 posts of Income-Tax Officers (Grade III);

(b) if so, what are the qualifications now prescribed for them; and

(c) whether fresh applications will be called for from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates, in view of the relaxation of the qualifications?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.