

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know what instructions have been given by Government in the light of this incident, so that the recurrence of such incidents may not be there in the future.

Shri Satish Chandra: This was a very unfortunate accident. Due precautions are always taken, and will be taken, to ensure that such accidents do not recur.

ESTATE DUTY ACT

*427. **Shri Ram Dass:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government as regards the recruitment of the staff for the administration of the Estate Duty Act; and

(b) whether that recruitment has been made exclusively from the Income-tax department?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). The Administration of the Estate Duty Act is carried on by the staff of the Income-tax Department. No special policy is to be followed for the recruitment of the staff for Estate Duty. The staff of the Income-tax Department will be augmented as and when necessary to cope with the additional work that may fall on them in connection with the administration of the Estate Duty Act.

Shri Ram Dass: May I know whether Government are considering the question of recruitment from the Central Excise Department also?

Shri M. C. Shah: This has nothing to do with the Central Excise Department. We are recruiting from the Income-Tax Department. This work has been entrusted to the Income-Tax Department, so the Income-Tax Officers will do this duty also.

Mr. Speaker: That is not the question. The hon. Member wants to know whether Government will recruit persons for this Department from among

servants working in the Central Excise Department.

Shri M. C. Shah: It is not decided as yet. So far as the Income-Tax Officers are concerned, we have to take them through the Union Public Service Commission. With regard to the other staff, i.e. inspectors, clerks etc., these people can apply.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any officer has been sent to foreign countries for training, or any expert has been called here?

Shri M. C. Shah: I have already said in reply to an earlier question that six officers are to be sent to England, for training purposes and for getting experience in the administration of estate duty in U. K. The team will consist of two Assistant Commissioners of Income-Tax and four Income-Tax Officers, Class I, Grade 1.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether Government will give due consideration to the quota reserved for Scheduled Castes, when the recruitment of the staff is made?

Shri M. C. Shah: Yes, the Union Public Service Commission take that into account first. A certain proportion has been reserved for Scheduled Castes.

BRITISH WAR LOAN

*428. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total liability of India for the British War Loan; and

(b) for how long it is likely to remain suspended?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) £ 15,466,928.

(b) Indefinitely.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: When was this liability undertaken by India?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Originally it was undertaken in 1917. But under the new arrangement in 1931, this was renewed.