

2 per cent. and 1 per cent. respectively on the gross realisations.

(c) and (d). The liquidators work under the direction of the High Court and Government are not in a position to give the information.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know why the two previous liquidators were replaced?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is a matter within the competence of the High Court.

Mr. Speaker: If he has got the information he may give it.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have not got the information.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the total assets and liabilities of the bank when it was ordered to be liquidated?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I shall require notice of that question.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if any of the directors, either directly or indirectly, were also debtors to the bank?

Mr. Speaker: I think we need not go into these matters. The matter is under the jurisdiction entirely of the High Court.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether the managing director, either in his own name or in the name of any other company, had taken a large sum of money.....

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter for the High Court to look into.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it no concern of the Reserve Bank?

Mr. Speaker: It may or may not be. It may be at the back of the hon. Member's mind. So long as the law stands as it is, it is not proper to make enquiries and suggestions on matters which are *suo judice*.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether there are any other banks which have been liquidated in the recent past?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

CLOSED BANKS OF WEST BENGAL

*398. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in the case of the banks of West Bengal, closed during the years 1947—1951 (both years inclusive) Government have made any enquiry regarding the properties of the persons who were responsible for the managements of those banks;

(b) whether any of these persons directly or indirectly had taken credit from the Banks—either in their own personal names or in the name of any firm;

(c) If so, what were the securities and what portions of these amounts have been realised; and

(d) what steps have been taken to realise these amounts?

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

(b) and (c). This information is not readily available. Secured loans to Directors are not prohibited under the Act and no particulars are supplied to the Reserve Bank. Unsecured loans have to be reported to the Reserve Bank but the progress of their recovery after liquidation is not available to the Reserve Bank.

(d) Government have no information as this is a matter for the liquidator.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if the liquidators have any right to settle the debt, or they have always to.....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will refer to the provisions of the law on the subject. Is there any point on which he wants information?

Shri A. C. Guha: Whatever information I ask for, the hon. Minister takes shelter behind the Reserve Bank and the High Court.

Mr. Speaker: He should await the report of the committee.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether Government are enquiring into the reasons why a large number of banks get liquidated especially in West Bengal?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It will take a long time to give the reasons. All I can say is that these developments are constantly under watch both by the Reserve Bank and the Government of India.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

*400. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of temporary employees in Class III Ministerial staff and in the Income Tax Offices in West Bengal;

(b) what percentage this temporary staff form to the total number of class III Ministerial staff (temporary and permanent combined); and