

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PERSONS UNDER DETENTION  
(HYDERABAD)

\*1119. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav**: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who are at present under detention in Hyderabad State under the Preventive Detention Act; and

(b) how many of them are detained as black marketeers or as anti-social elements?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). On the 30th November, 1952, 63 persons were under detention in the Hyderabad State. None of them had been detained for black marketing or other like anti-social activities. Orders for the release of 49 detenus have now been issued by the State Government.

## COMMISSION EARNED BY IMPERIAL BANK

\*1120. **Shri Gidwanl**: (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Imperial Bank of India utilizes Government money during the Banking hours, and at close of business, deposits the major portion of their cash balance in currency chest to save interest?

(b) Is it a fact that the Imperial Bank of India having Government currency chest at its disposal is able to do free transfer of funds for its use and charge commission to other Banks for transfer of funds?

(c) Is it a fact that because of Government currency chest with the Imperial Bank, that Bank keeps very low cash balances?

(d) What is the percentage of cash balance to Deposits maintained by that Bank in its branches where it has Government Currency Chest?

(e) Is it a fact that large funds of Semi-Government bodies, Trusts, Municipalities etc. are lying with the Imperial Bank of India free of interest?

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): (a) No Government moneys are deposited with the Imperial Bank of India. In accordance with the terms of an Agreement which the Reserve Bank of India has entered into with the Imperial Bank of India, the latter bank conducts Government business at places where the former has no offices. The receipts and payments on behalf of Government are

adjusted daily between the two institutions, the Imperial Bank of India being credited in respect of payments and debited in respect of receipts. In order to facilitate Government transactions, currency chests have been opened at Imperial Bank of India branches, as at Government treasuries, and in accordance with the aforesaid Agreement, the Imperial Bank of India deposits its surplus cash into Chests and withdraws funds from them to meet cash requirements. The relative adjustments are made daily between the two Banks, as in the case of Government transactions. A deposit made into the Chest may include a portion of the Imperial Bank's own cash balance, just as a withdrawal may include moneys paid on Government Account; but so long as the Imperial Bank conducts Government business as agent of the Reserve Bank, it would not be correct to say that it deposits only its own cash balance in Chests. In any case the Imperial Bank does not save interests by this arrangement and in effect transfers funds free of charge.

(b) Under clause 9 of the Agreement, Imperial Bank is entitled to transfer funds between its offices and branches having Currency Chests, free of charge. The Reserve Bank prescribes from time to time what facilities should be granted to scheduled and other banks for transfer of funds from one centre to another and the Imperial Bank, as its agent, is bound to give such facilities to the banks under clause 10 of the Agreement.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) The figures of percentage of cash to deposits for each individual branch where Currency Chest is maintained are not available.

(e) Several bodies of the nature in question maintain current and deposit accounts with the Imperial Bank. In accordance with the ordinary banking practice, interest is allowed on such deposit accounts but not normally on the current accounts.

## NATIONAL PICTURE GALLERY

\*1121. **Shri B. S. Murthy**: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the steps so far taken by the Central Government to establish a National Picture Gallery for India?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): Arrangements have now been made for housing the National Art Gallery; and steps have also been taken to appoint a Curator. As soon as a Curator is able to join, the National Art Gallery will start functioning.