

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Central Government loans were made in 1953-54. Four per cent loans were floated in 1953. Loans were also floated in 1952-53

Mr. Speaker: That is not the point. There is a difference in the rate and the answer is obvious. The Central Government floated loans

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The rate of interest for the Central Government loan and the State Government loan varies with the terms of the loan.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the frequency of floatation of such loans by several State Governments since 1947 has tended to shake public confidence in such Governments?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No, Sir. Rather the contrary.

Shri Kamath: Is that so really?

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether sanction has been refused to any State for floating any loan?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No, Sir.
Mineral Oil

*1423. **Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the availability of oil in the Tarai District of U. P. and Bihar especially in Gorakhpur, Deoria and Champaran Districts; and

(b) whether any survey of that region for oil has ever been undertaken?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b). Although no surface indication of the occurrence of oil has so far been obtained in the Tarai region of U.P., and Bihar, the possibility of suitable sub-surface oil-bearing structures in the Tertiary belt of the Himalayan foot-hills cannot be ruled out altogether. As a result of the work carried out by the Geological Survey of India, the extent of the Tertiary formation is more or less known. The possibility of the occurrence of oil will, however, be known only when detailed work is carried out in these regions.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether in the near future such a survey will be undertaken?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The Government of India are setting up an Oil and Natural Gas Division and as soon as this division starts functioning, I am sure more extensive survey will be done.

Shri Amjad Ali: With regard to (b), what kind of survey has been undertaken—arcomagnetic, Seismic or gravimetric?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I am not an expert and I must admit it, but I may say that some kind of survey has been done by the Geological Survey of India.

Income-Tax Department

*1424. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the number of complaints of corruption received against the officers of the Income-Tax Department during the years 1953 and 1954 separately;

(b) the number of complaints which have so far been enquired into and finalised; and

(c) the number of officers punished as a result of these complaints?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 16].

Shri Gidwani: The statement says that out of 311 cases, 213 have been enquired into and finalised. When will the remaining cases be finalised?

Shri M. C. Shah: Already 118 out of 150 cases in 1953 and 95 out of 161 in 1954 have been investigated. The rest are being investigated.

Shri Gidwani: In the statement it is further said that out of these cases, only nine officers have been punished, and in the remaining cases the investigations proved that the complaints were baseless. May I know whether these investigations were made by the anti-corruption department or by departmental officers?

Shri M. C. Shah: There were complaints made through the Commissioners of Income-tax and the Central Board of Revenue and they were sent to the Directorate of Inspection (Investigation). They were from certain individuals, anonymous and otherwise and were enquired into by those people.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know the machinery of the enquiry whether they were enquired into by the Income-tax Department or the anti-corruption department.

Shri M. C. Shah: In the Income-tax Department, there is a special branch called the Directorate of Inspection (Investigation). Whenever a complaint is received by the Central Board of Revenue or by the Commissioner of Income-tax or by the Ministry of Finance, it is sent to this special branch for investigation. There are special officers in this branch and they go and enquire into the complaints and report to the Central Board of Revenue. Where there is a case against an officer.