

Dr. M. M. Das: The Advisory Committee that was set up by the Central Social Welfare Board went round all the important centres of the country.

Income Tax Investigation Commission

*948. **Shri Amar Singh Damar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the income-tax investigation Commission has finished its work;

(b) if so, the total amount voluntarily disclosed;

(c) the total amount assessed by the Commission; and

(d) the total tax assessed on the concealed income?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) Not yet. However, after the decisions of the Supreme Court declaring *ultra vires* certain provisions of the Taxation on Income (Investigation Commission) Act, 1947, (XXX of 1947), the work left undisposed of when those decisions were given has been taken over by the Income-tax authorities themselves. The Commission has formally been kept in existence for the investigation of cases which had been referred to the Commission under the Travancore Taxation on Income (Investigation Commission) Act, and for dealing with certain miscellaneous pending matters both administrative and legal relating to cases already dealt with by the Commission such as custody of records, rectification of mistakes and references and suits filed by or against the Commission;

(b) if the Hon'ble Members refer to the amount of concealed income relating to cases settled with the assesses concerned by the Investigation Commission, such amount is Rs. 18.57 crores approximately;

(c) Rs. 38.7 crores approximately; and

(d) Rs. 16 crores approximately.

श्री अमर सिंह डामर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस कमिशन को नियुक्ति कब हुई थी और यह अपना कार्य कब तक समाप्त करेगा ?

Shri M. C. Shah: The Commission was appointed by the Act of 1947, and the Commission exists formally as I stated in my reply. The Supreme Court declared section 5(4) of the Act *ultra vires* in 1954; later the Court also declared *ultra vires* section 5(1) from 17th July 1954. So the cases that were not disposed of have been handed over to the income-tax authorities.

श्री अमर सिंह डामर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि यह कमिशन स्थायी है या अस्थायी ?

(No reply was given).

श्री के. सी. सोबिया : कमिशन से जो असेसमेंट किया है उसमें से कितना पैसा वसूल हो गया है ?

Shri M. C. Shah: The amount collected was Rs. 7.51 lakhs in cases under section 5(1) and Rs. 2.42 lakhs in cases under section 5(4).

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any number of cases in which assessment of concealed incomes was arrived at after compromise, and then they have been reopened after finding the concealments?

Shri M. C. Shah: There is a provision in the settlement that if there is some income concealed, then that case can be reopened. I cannot give the exact number of such cases at present.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know whether Government have considered the desirability of amending the Act in view of the Supreme Court judgment so that all the pending cases can be gone into thoroughly and investigation pursued further?

Shri M. C. Shah: Yes; the hon. Member must be aware that already the Income-tax Act has been amended last year, and another section—section 34(r)(A)—has been introduced and it was accepted by both Houses of Parliament. This was after the Supreme Court judgment.

Bonus Shares

*950. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Short Notice Question No. 8 on the 25th August, 1955 and state:

(a) whether a decision about imposing tax on bonus shares has been taken; and

(b) if so, the details of such taxation?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) Not yet Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government ever calculated the amount of the revenue that they can get as a result of imposing tax on bonus shares?