

(b) the percentage of this amount spent in India by Churches (i) for propaganda work and (ii) for charity?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) A statement giving information from January 1955 to February 1956 is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 18.]

(b) Government has no information.

STATE BANK OF INDIA

*2393. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conversion of the Imperial Bank of India into the State Bank of India has affected the deposits and withdrawals position during the year 1955-56; and

(b) if so, in what respect?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). Attention is invited to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1407 in the Sabha on the 3rd September, 1955. The downward trend noticed in the period from the 30th December, 1954 and June, 1955, has been reversed and the deposits have increased by Rs. 30.34 crores between the 29th July, 1955 and the 24th February, 1956, while those of the other scheduled banks showed a rise of Rs. 14.48 crores only, during this period.

BYE-ELECTIONS

*2394. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Election Commissioner was present during the counting of votes at some of the recent bye-elections to the State Assemblies and to the Lok Sabha;

(b) if so, at which places he was present since the 1st April, 1955; and

(c) whether any change in the existing procedure of counting of votes is under consideration?

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) Betul within Hoshangabad Parliamentary constituency in Madhya Pradesh;

(ii) Jind within Mohindergarh Parliamentary constituency in PEPSU; and

(iii) Bilgram within Bilgram (East) Assembly constituency in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) No change in the existing procedure of counting of votes is under consideration except what is contained in the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 1955 recently passed by this House (the Lok Sabha); the provisions of this Bill seek to permit candidates to employ a larger number of counting agents (subject to prescribed limits) than what is allowed by the existing law.

I.A.S. EMERGENCY RECRUITMENT BOARD

*2395. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has since been made in appointing the Emergency Recruitment Board as announced in the Lok Sabha;

(b) if so, the names of members so appointed; and

(c) when the Emergency Recruitment Board will begin functioning?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) to (c). The Special Recruitment Scheme provides for a qualifying Examination before selections are made by the Special Recruitment Board. Arrangements for the Examination have been taken in hand by the Union Public Service Commission. The question of appointing the Special Recruitment Board will arise only after the Examination is completed.

SETTLEMENT OF PAKISTANI NATIONALS IN INDIA

*2396. **Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in the years 1954-55 and 1955-56 respectively in which facilities were granted on the basis of the decisions arrived at the Indo-Pakistan Passport Conference, 1953 for the re-union of divided families in respect of categories (i) and (ii) respectively mentioned in paragraph 38, on page 25 of the Report 1955-56 of the Ministry of Home Affairs;

(b) whether the "certain persons who had their close relatives in India on whom they were dependent", mentioned in the last sub-paragraph of paragraph 38 are over and above the two categories mentioned above; and

(c) if so, the number of Pakistani nationals to whom such facilities were granted during 1954-55 and 1955-56, and conditions that they had to satisfy for eligibility under this concession?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) 815 in 1954-55 and 1110 in 1955-56.

(b) Yes.

(c) 45 in 1954-55 and 60 in 1955-56. Every such case is examined and decided on merits, and all factors including compassionate grounds are taken into account.

TAX EVASION

*2397. { **Shri Madiah Gowda:**
Shri N. B. Chowdhury:

Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Nicholas Kalder, noted economist of United Kingdom has reported that the amount of income-tax lost through tax evasion in India is of the order of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 crores, a year;

(b) which important sectors are the main sources of such evasion; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) Attention is invited to the reply given

to the Starred Question No. 2023 dated 8th March 1956. Steps are being taken to publish Mr. Kalder's Report and it will be misleading to disclose certain figures out of their context, until the Report has been published.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Report is under the consideration of Government.

CIVILIAN DEFENCE EMPLOYEES

*2398. { **Shri P. L. Kureel:**
Shri G. L. Chaudhary:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that discriminatory treatment is being meted for the last seven years to certain section of civilian employees of the same category in view of the fact that personnel of former ETE category are being given free indoor medical treatment in Military Hospitals whereas recoveries are being effected from personnel belonging to former ISP categories, although since 1st August, 1949 both the categories are governed by same terms and conditions of service; and

(b) if so, why?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b). A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 19.]

POSTAL BANKING FACILITIES

*2399. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have considered and arrived at any conclusion with regard to the suggestion made by the International Monetary Fund Mission two and half years back regarding the extension of postal banking services to rural India; and

(b) the extent of increase in the Post Office Savings Banks Accounts and amounts of deposits during the last five years (year-wise)?