

FOREIGN AID FOR SECOND YEAR OF FOURTH PLAN

952. SHRI P. N. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of likely foreign aid for the Second year of the Fourth Plan;

(b) whether the same is in conformity with the targets fixed by the Planning Commission;

(c) if not, how the gap is proposed to be filled in; and

(d) whether in view of the shortage of foreign aid, Government propose to adjust the Plan and reshape the targets ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) Credit agreements have been signed with foreign countries during 1967-68 (up to 31st October, 1967) for a total amount of Rs. 335.83 crores. It is likely that some more agreements may be signed before the end of 1967-68.

(b) to (d). The likely availability of both rupee resources and foreign exchange is taken into account in drawing up annual Plans. No changes have so far been considered necessary in the annual Plan drawn up for 1967-68.

INCOME-TAX ARREARS WRITTEN OFF DURING 1966-67

953. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any income-tax arrears were written off in the year 1966-67;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) the names of the parties whose income-tax arrears were written off ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) Yes, sir.

(b) Rs. 22,90,652.

(c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

BATRA COMMUNITY AS SCHEDULED TRIBE IN MADHYA PRADESH

954. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Batra community has been classified as a Scheduled Tribe in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not including this community in Scheduled Tribes in Yeotmal district of Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA) : (a) and (b). The Bhattra community is treated as a Scheduled Tribe in parts of Madhya Pradesh and also in parts of Maharashtra including the Kalapur, Wani and Yeotmal tehsils of Yeotmal district. In the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (amendment) Bill 1967, introduced in the Lok Sabha on the 12th August, 1967, it is proposed to specify this community as a Scheduled Tribes throughout Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

'ISRAEL'S FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL' BOOK

955. SHRI CHARANJIT RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Robert J. Donovan's book 'Israel's Fight for Survival' has been held over by the Customs for weeks and denied free circulation in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). A consignment containing copies of the book entitled "Six Days in June—Israel's Fight for Survival" by Robert J. Donovan was detained by the Customs authorities at Bombay for scrutiny as to whether it came within the scope of the prohibitory notifications issued under the Customs Act, 1962. After scrutiny, it was decided to allow the importation of the book into the country and the consignment containing these books was accordingly released.