

Directorate of Revenue & Intelligence, seized 32 Forklift trolley tyres, at Palam airport. On examination, about 2.5 kgs. of hashish was found concealed in each of these tyres. In addition, 157 similar tyres were seized on 22-4-78 from two different godowns at Delhi. On opening of all the 189 tyres, about 480.350 kgs. of hashish of estimated value of about Rs. 1.5 crores in U.S.A., was recovered and seized. Two persons, one Indian and another Israeli, were arrested in this connection.

(d) No passenger has been arrested in this regard.

(e) Appropriate action under the law is being taken. The two persons involved in the offence have been detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

Report of Bhoothalingam Study Group on Wages, Incomes and Prices

9304. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI :
SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the study group headed by Shri Bhoothalingam has submitted its report ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon ; and

(c) if not, by what time the report is expected ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) By about middle of May, 1978.

Amalgamation of Insurance Companies into G.I.C.

9305. DR. BALDEV PRAKASH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any categorisation was done after the amalgamation of Insurance Companies into G.I.C. and its subsidiaries ;

(b) if so, the guidelines and conditions in details on which the categorisation was made of lower management ; and

(c) the number and name of officers working in different companies who were decategorised to non-officers posts and vice-versa ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Lower Management Service Committee was appointed by the Board of the General Insurance Corporation of India for each of its subsidiaries to categorise and recommend names of persons who were considered suitable to hold posts at lower management level viz. Assistant Managers, Administrative Officer and Assistant Administrative Officers. The Committee, for the purpose of categorisation and their placement on lower management level, took into account various factors such as position held, nature of duties, suitability for the post in view, qualification, salary and the size of operations of the erstwhile insurer.

(c) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in mind the cases of those employees who claimed to be officers but who were not categorised as such by the said Committee. As there were a number of representations by aggrieved employees against their initial categorisation, Appeal Committees were constituted in each subsidiary of G.I.C. to consider such cases. The appeal Committee have decided most of these cases taking all relevant facts into consideration.

The information relating to the number of the appellants who have now been categorised as officers as well as the number of employees whose appeals have been rejected is being collected.

Oil Seeds Production

9306. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state :

(a) total production and import of edible oil seeds, yearwise during the last three years ;

(b) whether there is scarcity of edible oil in the country ; and

(c) if so, factors responsible for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL) : (a) A statement is annexed.

(b) and (c). There has been a persistent gap between demand and production of edible oils. As an immediate measure, the shortfall of edible oil is being met by imports, both through STC and through private trade. In addition, efforts are also being made to