

Rent Paid for Office Accommodation by Income-tax and Central Excise in Orissa

10195. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of rent paid for accommodating the Offices of income tax and Central Excise in Orissa during the last two years; and

(b) steps taken by Government to construct its own buildings to accommodate these offices in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) Rents paid for office accommodation in respect of Income-tax and Central Excise and Customs Departments in Orissa are given below:—

Name of the Department	Year	Amount of rent paid
		Rs.
Central Excise and Customs	1976-77	1,91,841.20
	1977-78	1,95,022.20
Income-tax	1976-77	2,88,544.00
	1977-78	2,92,560.00

(b) Land has been acquired for construction of office buildings for Central Excise and Income-tax Departments at Bhubneswar, Cuttack, Almunda and Rayagadda and plans and estimates are being got prepared so as to undertake construction as early as possible. In addition Income-tax Department has purchased land at Rourkela for construction of office buildings. Purchase of buildings along with land for locating Income-tax Offices at Dhenkanal and Bolangir is being pursued. Action is also in hand for acquiring land at Sambalpur for construction of office accommodation.

बर्ष 1977-78 में दुहरे (कुम्कोट) नोटों का पकड़ा जाना

10196. श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा बर्ष 1977-78 में कुछ जाली और दुहरे नोट पकड़े गए थे;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या कितनी है; और

(ग) ये नोट कहाँ छपे थे ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बुद्धिकार उत्सव) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) जानकारी नीचे दी गई है :—

	1977	1978
	(30-4-1978 तक)	
भारतीय जाली करेंसी नोट	9125 (संख्या)	317 (संख्या)
विदेशी जाली करेंसी नोट	89 (संख्या)	—

(ग) केवल 48 नोट छावनी, दुर्ग (मध्य प्रदेश) में छापे गए बताए जाते हैं। इस मामले में एक प्रिंटिंग मशीन, और 100 रुपए मूल्यवर्ग के 48 जाली नोट और बहुत से प्रांशिक रूप से छापे गए जाली नोट पकड़े हैं। शेष भारतीय और 16दशा जाली करेंसी नोटों के छापने का स्थान या छापने के स्थानों का अभी तक पता नहीं चल सका है ।

Allegations against Senior Hindi Officer of Ministry of Finance

10197. SHRI R. L. KUREEL:

SHRI MAHMOOD HASSAN KHAN;

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some time ago a Senior Hindi Officer of the Ministry of Finance was alleged to be involved in a smuggling racket with a foreigner;

(b) whether the basis of this allegation was a communication purported to have been written by a foreigner in Bangkok to the said officer of his Ministry, if so, whether a copy of the said communication will be laid on the Table of the House;

(c) whether this allegation was investigated into by the Director General of Revenue and Intelligence as well as the C.B.I., but the case had not been pursued further by his Ministry and the case has since been dropped; and

(d) whether a statement will be laid on the Table of the House showing the comments made by the DGR&I, the C.B.I. and his Ministry, in justification of the action of the Government, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The basis of the allegation was a letter written by a foreigner acquaintance in Bangkok to the senior Hindi Officer and produced by the latter to the Department prior to the receipt of the allegation in connection with his request for permission to permit his son accepting invitation from the foreigner in question to spend vacation in Bangkok.

(c) This allegation was investigated by the Director General of Revenue Intelligence & Investigations, a Senior Officer of the Indian Police. The DGR&I reported that there was no information or any material to suspect the foreigner in Bangkok, referred to in para (b) of the question, to be engaged in smuggling, espionage or any other activity. He also did not find anything incriminatory in this letter. Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Home Affairs while allowing the request of the Senior Hindi Officer earlier did not find anything suspicious in this matter. The C.B.I. was then asked to look into the assets of the Senior Hindi

Officer with reference to his source of income. On the basis of the C.B.I. report and in consultation with the Department of Personnel and Central Vigilance Commission, Ministry of Finance absolved the Senior Hindi Officer of being involved in any manner with any foreigner inimical to the National interests. They also held that his assets were not disproportionate. However, Government's displeasure was communicated to the Senior Hindi Officer on the following grounds:

(i) for carrying on, without previous sanction, a fairly regular side business as astrologer or a priest and earning substantial income therefrom.

(ii) for not including the additional income referred to above in the income-tax return till March, 1973; and

(iii) for trying to bring pressure on the Central Vigilance Commissioner more than once.

The Officer concerned has represented against this communication.

(d) It is not desirable to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the comments of the DGR&I, the C.B.I. etc. as it is considered that it will not be in the public interest to do so.

Foreign Companies whose remittances of profits and dividends have been withheld

10198. SHRI D. G. GAWAI:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE
GOWDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign companies operating in India whose remittances of profits and dividends have been withheld because of their not complying with the directives of the Reserve Bank regarding Indianisation or dilution of foreign equity;