

areas of MCD and NDMC should vary so much, 12½ per cent of the Rateable Value in the latter case and up to 30 per cent of higher slabs of Rateable Value in the case of MCD.

(2) For the residents of Delhi and New Delhi it is necessary that there should be some rationalisation of the tax structure. The existing differentiation is anachronistic and irrational. The Delhi Administration and the Government of India owe a responsibility to the citizens to bring about the harmonisation in the tax structures of these two authorities.

Conference of Tea Exporting Countries held in Bandung

1413. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of eleven Tea-Exporting countries was held in Bandung recently; if so, whether India was represented on it;

(b) whether this Conference suggested the introduction of quota system in the international marketing of tea; and

(c) if so, its impact on India's Tea exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. A conference of Tea Exporting countries was held in Bandung from 5 to 9 May, 1980, and India was one of the participants.

(b) and (c). The Conference considered proposals for introduction of a system of supply management based primarily on export quotas. It was agreed that further consideration of some aspects of this question would be required before allocation of the global quota could be finalised.

Deposits with Non-Banking Companies

1414. SHRI G. Y. KRISHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some years ago, the Reserve Bank had taken note of the notable rise in deposits with non-banking companies and had appointed a Committee to study the problem; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the report of that Committee and the suggestions submitted to Government regarding remedies to prevent misuse of the deposits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). In June, 1974 the Reserve Bank of India appointed a study Group on Non-Banking Companies under the Chairmanship of Shri James S. Raj, to examine, *inter-alia*, the provisions of the various Directions issued by the Bank to regulate the deposit acceptance activities of Non-Banking Companies and to suggest measures for further tightening up the provisions so as to ensure that the activities of such companies subserved the national interest as an adjunct to the regulation of the monetary and credit policies of the country, besides affording a degree of protection to the depositor's moneys. The Study Group submitted its report in June, 1975. Most of the recommendations of this Group which related to the prescription of the maximum period for acceptance of deposits, revision of the ceilings in certain cases, maintenance of liquid assets and giving of certain further particulars in advertisement issued by the Financial and Non-Financial Companies soliciting deposits from the public, have already been implemented by amending the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules 1975 in 1978 and the issue of the revised Directions by the Reserve Bank in 1977.

Another recommendation of the Group regarding banning of prize chit business has also been given effect to by enactment of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978 which has come into force with effect from 12th December, 1978. The Act is to be administered by the State Governments who have been invested with the power to frame rules thereunder in consultation with the Reserve Bank.

Imported Copper

1415. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that off-take of imported copper has been very poor during the last few months; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. On the whole, the off-take of imported Copper has been normal during the last few months.

(b) Does not arise.

Stock of Imported Edible Oils with STC

1416. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is presently stock of imported edible oils with STC and since which time STC stopped supplying oil to private traders for sale;

(b) is it true that STC is again going to supply oil to such traders, if so, on what terms and from when; and

(c) what factors have led to change in STC policy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Stock

of imported edible oils as on 7-6-1980 is 2.91 lakhs tonnes. Sale of edible oils to private traders has been stopped since 9.1.1980.

(b) No resumption of sale of imported edible oils by STC to the private traders is presently envisaged. However, the edible oil situation in the country is kept under constant watch by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Representation by Retired Officers of Military Accounts Department

1417. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received, in the first week of May, 1980, any representation addressed to the Prime Minister from Shri S. A. Kulkarni and others, retired officials of the Defence Military Accounts Department, PUNE (Maharashtra) stating their grievances and demands;

(b) if so, what are their demands;

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No such representation seems to have been received in Prime Minister's Office. Representation when received will be attended to.

(b) and (c). Do not arise at this stage.

Number of Employees in Indian Overseas Bank

1418. SHRI CHANDRA PAL SHAILANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of employees category-wise and region-wise in Indian Overseas Bank;

(b) the number out of them belonging to SC/ST Communities;