

Rs. 2-32 crores which have either been demonetised or have been notified for demonetisation have returned from circulation between the 1st April, 1957 and the 30th September, 1959.

(b) and (c). Yes. Two notifications have so far been issued, demonetising nickel-brass two-anna, half-pice and one pie pieces with effect from 1st January, 1959 and nickel-brass one-anna and half-anna coins from 1st January, 1960. The question of demonetising certain other coins is still under consideration. It is not possible at this stage to indicate precisely when all the coins in the denominations of two-annas and less in the anna-pie series will be finally withdrawn.

Foreign Exchange

944. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 721 on the 13th August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the adjudication and investigations into the remaining three cases regarding spending of more foreign exchange by leading industrialists who go abroad have been completed; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). Out of the remaining three cases pending in August 1959, the case of Shri Amirsahand T. Gupta has been adjudicated and a penalty of Rs. 400 imposed on him. In the case of Shri Kishanchand Sobhraj Vaswani, as the investigations did not disclose anything incriminating, the case has been closed. The case of Shri V. J. Pillani is still under investigation.

Allotment of Iron, Steel and Coal to Punjab

945. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that iron, steel and coal allotted to Punjab is

not commensurate with the demand of steel in the State;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) nature of steps taken or proposed to be taken to supply more iron, steel and coal to Punjab?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The supply position of pig iron is comparatively easy and any consumer can get pig iron now without any authorisation. As regards steel and coal the answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The demand for steel is more than the availability. In regard to coal, the demand of Punjab State could not be met in full due to overall shortage of rail transport.

(c) Steps have been taken to increase indigenous production of steel. Imports are also made to the extent possible. As regard coal, the shortage in supply is only about 7½ per cent. of the allocation and it should be possible for the State to meet the requirements by suitable redistribution.

'Jhuggies' and 'Jhopries' in Delhi

946. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri D. G. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 707 on the 22nd August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether Government has since taken a decision on the report of the Committee appointed to investigate into the problems of "Jhuggies" and "Jhopries" in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.