

**Income Tax Written Off**

888. **Shri K. U. Parmar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain amounts of Income Tax have been written off during the years 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960 in Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the names of the persons; and

(c) what were the circumstances of doing so?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** (a) No amount was written off in 1955 and 1956 but amounts were written off in 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960.

(b) and (c). It is not possible to furnish these details in view of the statutory prohibition contained in Section 54 of the Income Tax Act.

**Price of Gold**

889. **Shri G. K. Jedhe:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to check and control the price of gold?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** With a view to conserving foreign exchange, Government have banned the import of gold. Measures have also been taken to check gold smuggling. The price at which gold changes hands within the country is of little significance in this context.

However, in order to check speculation, forward dealing in gold within the limits of Greater Bombay has been brought within the purview of the Forward Contracts Act. The Bombay Bullion Association Ltd., now conducts forward trading in gold under the supervision of the Forward Markets Commission.

**Geological Survey of Maharashtra and Mysore**

890. **Shri G. K. Jhede:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the full geological survey has been made in Western Ghats and coastal line of Maharashtra and Mysore State with the object of discovering coal and oil deposits;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the details thereof and the places (Districts) where oil and coal have been found?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) No, Sir. However, the Geological Survey of India carried out some investigations in the Western Ghats and along the coastal line of Maharashtra and Mysore State.

(b) Neither the rock formations in these areas are favourable for search for oil, nor the Permo-Carboniferous and Tertiary formations which are likely to contain coal seams are located in these areas.

(c) Does not arise.

**शिक्षण संस्थाओं के लिये वैज्ञानिक उपकरण**

८९१. श्री रा० ख० शर्मा : क्या वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) शिक्षण संस्थाओं को उचित मूल्य पर वैज्ञानिक उपकरण देने के लिये क्या उपाय किये गये हैं; और

(ख) प्रायतः होने वाले उपकरणों का मूल्य किन् प्रकार निर्धारित किया जाता है ?

वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री तुलायून् कबिर) : (क) सूचना नीचे दी है :—