

considered it desirable to convene a conference of the Chief Ministers of States to consider in detail the provisions of the Constitution, particularly those relating to financial relationship ;

(b) whether the above issue was raised at the Conference of the Chief Ministers held recently at New Delhi ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) to (c). Centre-State financial relations usually come up for discussion at the meetings of the National Development Council and similar meetings and this subject was also raised in general terms by some Chief Ministers at the meeting of the National Development Council held at New Delhi last month. It was not considered necessary therefore to convene a separate Conference for this purpose.

Certain aspects of financial relationship between the Centre and the States are now under examination by the Finance Commission and the position would be reviewed by the Central Government in the light of their recommendations.

The Administrative Reforms Commission is also studying the question of Centre-State financial relationship and would be making recommendations on this subject.

Recruitment of Assistant Administrative Officers in L. I. C.

8420. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a growing discontent among the Life Insurance Corporation employees about the direct recruitment to the cadre of Assistant Administrative Officers ;

(b) if so, whether the All India Insurance Employees Association has protested against this step ; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). Some Associations representing Class III and Class IV employees of the Corporation including the All India Insurance Employees Association have expressed themselves against any direct recruitment to the cadre of Assistant Administrative Officers.

(c) The matter primarily concerns the life Insurance Corporation which does not find it desirable to change its existing practice of making recruitment to the Assistant Administrative Officers cadre both by promotion from within the clerical ranks and by direct recruitment on an all India competitive basis.

Seizure of Foreign Goods at Kretri Island near Bombay

8421. SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Officers of the Anti-corruption Department had seized large quantity of foreign goods and cloth at Kretri Island near Bombay in the first week of April, 1969 ;

(b) if so the value of the goods seized ; and

(c) the names of the countries from which they originated ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) to (c). On the 3rd April, 1969 the staff of the Anti-Corruption Bureau, Government of Maharashtra, seized foreign goods, including cloth, valued approximately at Rs. 13 lakhs (market value) in Kennery Light House Island and not at Kretri Island. The goods were of Japanese and West German origin.

Compulsory Family Planning Programme

8422. SHRI VIKRAM CHAND MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND