

कहा है। 1969-70 के लिए वार्षिक योजना को अभी अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है।

Participation in last General Strike by Employees of Accountant General Officer, Gujarat

5471. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees suspended for participation in the strike of the 19th September, 1968 in the office of the Accountant General, Gujarat ;

(b) the number of employees out of them who are still under suspension ;

(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has received representations from the Civil Account Association, Ahmedabad, complaining about the inordinate delay in proceeding with the cases of the employees under suspension ; and

(d) the steps being taken to complete the inquiry against the concerned employees ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) Five.

(b) Two.

(c) No cognizance is taken of the representations etc. received from the derecognised associations

(d) Instructions have already been issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General that every effort should be made to try to complete the inquiry by 15th April, 1969.

Committee to Study Problem of Tax Evasion

5472. SHRI VALMIKI CHOUHDARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee has been constituted by his Ministry to study the problem of tax evasion ;

(b) If so, its composition and main terms of reference ; and

(c) the broad features of the report, if any, submitted by the Committee ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee was composed of one Director of Inspection (Investigation), one Commissioner of Income-tax, one Deputy Director of Inspection and two Assistant Commissioners of Income-tax with an Assistant Director as Secretary. Its terms of reference were as under :—

(a) The Committee will study the causes of tax evasion, general techniques of tax evasion as also special ones employed in major trades and industries and recommend the steps which it considers necessary to adopt to check and detect tax evasion.

(b) Without prejudice to the generality of the above, the Committee will study and report, in particular, on the following :—

(i) Dealings in lands and buildings ;

(ii) Tax evasion by film artists and other professional classes, like lawyers and doctors ;

(iii) Tax evasion in speculation in commodities: shares etc. ;

(iv) Tax evasion through benami transactions ;

(v) How far law of limitation protects the successful tax evaders ;

(vi) Adequacy of strength and conditions of service of the personnel of the Income-tax Department ;

(vii) Recognition or reward to the successful investigator ;

(viii) Imposition of supervisory responsibilities within the optimum span of control ;

- (ix) Adequacy of liaison with other Government Departments ; and
- (x) Collusion between Banks and tax evaders.
- (c) The broad features of the report submitted by the Committee are :—
- (1) Strengthening of administration ;
 - (2) Curbs on cash transactions and cash holdings.
 - (3) Enlargement of powers of search and seizure.
 - (4) Compulsory declaration before the Income-tax Officer of assets held in the names of others.

Air-Borne Mineral Survey

5473. SHRI R. K. SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an air-borne Survey for possible mineral reserves has been conducted in some parts of the country ;

(b) if so, the areas covered so far by the Survey and the findings thereof ; and

(c) whether a similar survey is contemplated in Uttar Pradesh also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) and (b). Airborne geophysical surveys as the first Phase of 'Operation Hardrock' have been carried out in parts of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar and West Bengal. The electromagnetic anomalies accruing from these flights have been graded taking into consideration the associated magnetic data, and geological setting. About 3,000 such anomaly intercepts have been taken up in the first instance for preliminary ground reconnaissance. Based on results of ground reconnaissance detailed geophysical, geological and geochemical examination are

in progress in some of the promising zones. Diamond core drilling has also already been initiated near Ajit Sagar 10 km. east of Khetri in Rajasthan where a promising aero-anomaly was established. A map of the parts of Andhra Pradesh delineating areas for ground-water exploration has also been forwarded to the Geological Survey of India and the State Government.

The radiometric data from these flights have been passed on to the Atomic Minerals Division of the Atomic Energy Department for further investigations.

(c) There are no proposals at present for undertaking aerial surveys in the Uttar Pradesh.

Demand for cut in Bank Rate

5474. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that at a meeting of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry held on the 16th March, 1969, there was a demand for cut in the bank rate ;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the demand made at the meeting ; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER & MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) to (c). There was no demand as such for a reduction in the bank rate. However, while scotching rumours about the possibility of a cut in the bank rate, the Governor of the Reserve Bank said at the meeting that when banks had ample funds and had need to borrow only moderately from the Reserve Bank, there had been no occasion for the Reserve Bank or for the banking system to give much thought to the level of the bank rate. Actually refinancing in respect of the bank lending to the priority sectors is available from the Reserve Bank at 4.5% rather than at the bank rate of 5%.