

against Indian Iron shares to the Goenka group amounted to about Rs. 57 lakhs. In addition, another Rs. 50 lakhs were given by the said bank in August, 1958, with the approval of the Reserve Bank to two parties to enable them to purchase part of the shareholdings of the Goenka group. The total amount of advances by the said bank against Indian Iron shares thus aggregated to Rs. 107 lakhs. Out of this, the present outstanding is reported to be Rs. 47 lakhs, excluding interest. Up-to-date information about such advances made by other banks is not readily available. However, all these banks were advised by the Reserve Bank in 1967 to fix a repayment programme for advances exceeding Rs. 5 lakhs against Indian Iron shares and the banks have complied with the said instruction. Reserve Bank's enquiries do not indicate the existence of any bank support to Shri Goenka's alleged further purchases.

(d) In the absence of full particulars about the shares acquire by the Goenka group, the company Law Board finds it difficult to take any action under Section 250 of the Companies Act. However, the Board has decided to have a thorough inspection of books of accounts of a company under the control of Shri Ram Nath Goenka.

Dearness Allowance to Central Government Employees

9360. SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA ; Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

have decided not to increase the dearness allowance of the Central Government employees in future ;

(b) whether it is a fact that with this end in view, Government have excluded milk and ghee from the list of essential commodities which were taken into account for the purposes of calculating price index on the basis of which Dearness Allowance of the Central Government employees was increased ; and

(c) if so, the reasons for excluding these commodities from the list of essential commodities ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Release of Foreign Exchange

9361. SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange that was released to Mintsters, students, officials, businessmen, to persons going abroad for medical treatment, to persons going abroad for pleasure sake and to film people during the years 1966, 1967 and 1968 separately ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : A statement giving the information in respect of foreign exchange released for studies, business travel, medical treatment, pleasure trips and to film people is

STATEMENT

(Figures in Lakhs of Rupees)

S. No.	Particulars	1966	1967	1968
1.	Students	542	592	540
2.	Business travel	223	362	434
3.	Medical treatment (inclusive of exchange released to attendants)	43	54	46
4.	Pleasure trips abroad	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Film people (for export promotion, participation in film festivals, location shooting of films etc.)	1.78	3.81	3.39

Information in respect of Ministers and officials is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.