

should be investigated. The CBI is investigating into the matter as to who are the persons who are responsible. I would like to know as to what are the terms of reference of the CBI investigation.

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :** There are no terms of reference as such. Whenever such criminal cases are handled by them they can look into all connected and related matters and they have got complete freedom to go into all matters related with the main investigation. We don't put any fetters on their investigation, by giving them any specific terms of reference. They can go into any things connected with this matter and things that have any bearing which are needed to be gone into. They are free to go into all such matters and we shall fully cooperate with them as far as this matter is concerned.

**SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO :** I want to know whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a growing practice for defence officers to write books on defence matters after their retirement. This practice was started by Gen Thimmayya ; then Lieut. General Kaul wrote a book. There was another book by one Brig the Himalayal Blunder, and only 2 days back there was a book by Lieut. Gen. Kaul, recently released. Is there any check which the Defence Ministry is exercising to see that vital and secret information with regard to defence matters is not used by defence officers after retirement, in respect of writing books using the information which they came across while they were in service, and having first-hand knowledge about them? Is there any condition which they are imposing to see that retirement benefits will be only available to them if the officers after retirement do not disclose vital information which they came to know while they were in service? Sir, all this information leaks out through these sources.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Your question is as long as a speech.

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :** There is the Official Secrets Act of the Government of India according to which an officer (whether serving or retired) is precluded from using classified documents. That is the position and if any violation takes place, action can be taken as laid down by law.

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :** In view of the fact that a number of books are being written not only by retired army officials but also by other officers of the Government of India after retirement, will the Government consider making materials available to the academic persons also in the universities, etc. and also bringing out its own version of the happenings narrated in those books?

**MR. SPEAKER :** This question is about leakage in a particular case. It cannot go beyond the scope.

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :** Sir, a number of such books are written every day.

**MR. SPEAKER :** But you can put a separate question. You can't get that out of this question.

**SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE :** In view of the House having been told during the Parliament when we had a discussion here that only a very few officials, two or three, very highly placed and highly trusted, had access to the secret documents which were alleged to have been passed on to this man, may I know why it is that in spite of only two or three officers having been involved this delay is taking place?

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :** There is no delay as such. I just checked up the position before coming to the House. The CBI have been investigating into the matter and they are completing their investigations in the sense that they have laid down the procedure, and although I cannot indicate the time that they will take to complete their reports, yet, as far as the investigation procedure and other things are concerned, I am quite satisfied that there has been no delay either on our part or on their part in conducting investigations into this matter.

#### **Release of Foreign Exchange to Foreign Oil Companies**

\*1513. **SHRI N. E. HORO :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign exchange has been released to foreign oil companies keeping in view the decision on prices by crude oil companies functioning in India ; and

(b) if so, to what extent ?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :** (a) and (b). While the Government have made it clear to the Oil Companies that they do not see sufficient justification for accepting to the full extent the higher prices being charged for crude imports by the oil companies, Government have considered it necessary, nevertheless, in the present situation to allow on a provisional basis import of crude oil at June, 1971 prices to ensure adequate supplies of oil products.

**SHRI N. E. HORO :** May I know the reaction of these foreign oil companies to the step taken by Government ? Are they going to reduce the prices ?

**SHRI P. C. SETHI :** We have not yet reaction of the companies.

**SHRI N. E. HORO :** The hon. Minister has said that Government have received no reaction. But the fact remains that these foreign oil companies are charging high prices for crude oil and they still go on using foreign exchange. I would like to know what vital justification Government see in giving them foreign exchange under these circumstances.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI :** We have made it very clear a number of times that whatever foreign exchange is being released is on a provisional basis. At the present juncture, it will not be prudent to import less crude oil, and, therefore, we are releasing the foreign exchange, so that the crude oil may not be reduced.

**SHRI RAJA KULKARNI :** In case the foreign oil companies decide to cut down the imports, how do Government propose to meet the situation ?

**SHRI AMRIT NAHATA :** By nationalising them.

**SHRI P. C. SETHI :** This is a hypothetical question. When such a contingency arises, we shall take suitable action.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Such hypothetical questions need not be answered.

**श्री सतपाल कपूर :** इन आयल कम्पनियों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने के मार्ग में गवर्नमेंट के सामने क्या रुकावट है ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय .** इस सवाल का जवाब तो रेडॉमेड होना चाहिये आपके पास ।

**श्री पी० सी० सेठी :** इसका जवाब मैं कई बार दे चुका हूँ ।

**श्री भोगेन्द्र झा :** विदेशी तेल कम्पनियों विदेशों मुद्रा की माग करती है। बार बार यह बात सामने आई है कि आप तेल इंडियन आयल कम्पनी के जरिये मगाये और जो अरब में तेल वाले देश है और मध्य पूर्व के देश हैं उनको हमारे माल की जरूरत है, कपड़े की जरूरत है इजीनियरिंग गुड्स की जरूरत है और उन से हम रुपये में कारोबार भी कर सकते हैं, उन से तेल मंगाएँ। अपनी चीजों के बदले में हम वहाँ से इंडियन आयल कम्पनी के जरिये तेल मंगा सकते हैं। इससे विदेशी मुद्रा की भी बचत होगी और हमारे माल की भी वहा खपत होगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस में दिक्कत क्या है ?

**SHRI P. C. SETHI :** I have pointed out a number of times that we are in search of an alternative source of crude. As far as the private companies are concerned, they have, according to the refinery agreement, the right to bring crude from their own sources. I have also said that the question whether the refinery agreement, this particular clause or entire agreement, has to be changed is under the review of Government.

#### Separate Allotment for Rural and Urban Sectors for Housing in the Fourth Plan

\*1514. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH :** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not making separate allotment for Rural and Urban Sectors out of Rs. 193 crore, the total amount in the Fourth Five Year Plan for Housing ;

(b) whether these allotments to States are on population basis and States are required