

(c) whether a lenient view was taken of the crimes committed and the guilty given only token or light punishment; and

(d) if so, whether a fresh inquiry will be ordered and stern measures taken against the guilty men?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): (a) Presumably the Question relates to a case which occurred in 1961 in which an attempt was made to remove some spoiled Bank notes ordered for destruction by the Reserve Bank of India. The attempt was foiled. Investigations made did not indicate circulation of spoiled notes ordered for destruction.

(b) Only a few cases of alleged duplicate numbering of notes have come to the notice of Government. However, on investigation it was found that in several of these cases the numbers on one set of notes had been altered by a deliberate attempt. The motive for such attempts is not clear, and the Central Bureau of Investigation are understood to be investigating some of these cases. Only in two cases the duplicate numbering was due to an error in printing which was not detected, for which departmental action has been taken against the persons concerned.

(c) The case of the attempted removal of spoiled notes was investigated by the Police and prosecution launched against three persons but the Court acquitted them. As a result of departmental enquiries one person was dismissed and four others of the Reserve Bank of India Staff punished. The detective department of the Police also undertook investigations to unearth any conspiracy, but these investigations did not reveal any thing.

(d) Does not arise.

Attaching of Price Index to long-term Borrowing

*376. Shri R. S. Vidyarthi:
Shri N. S. Sharma:
Shri Sharda Nand:
Shri Brij Bhushan Lal:

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri Shri Gopal Saboo:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to attach the price index to long term borrowing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time likely to be taken for its implementation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Cochin Refinery

*377. Shri Kashi Nath Pandey:
Shri N. P. Yadav:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cochin Refinery has not reached its designed capacity so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when it is going to reach to its full capacity?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) No, Sir. The refinery is operating at its design capacity with effect from the 28th May, 1967.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Irrigation Facilities

*378. Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri C. Janardhanan:
Shri P. C. Adichan:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachwal:
Shri Shiv Kumar Shastri:
Shri Ram Gopal Shalwale:
Shri O. P. Tyagi:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared crash programme to provide irrigation facilities to additional 10 million acres of land for wiping out the country's food growing deficit in the next four years; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) and (b). Ministry of Irrigation and Power have proposed that accelerated financial assistance should be given to 4 selected major irrigation projects, which are in an advanced stage of construction, so as to complete them during the Fourth Plan period. These four projects, on completion, will create an irrigation potential of 8 million acres. The proposal is under consideration.

Moratorium on P. L. 480 Funds

*379. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to request the U.S. Government for a moratorium in regard to PL 480 Funds;

(b) whether this will freeze the PL 480 Funds from their being spent by U.S. Embassy in India; and

(c) whether U.S. Government have agreed to this proposal?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Agriculture in Fourth Plan

*380. Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Ramachandra Veerappa:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more amount will be allocated for agriculture in the Fourth Plan;

(b) if so, whether a detailed plan has been chalked out to implement this decision; and

(c) whether a team of experts will be appointed to advise the Planning Commission in this regard?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). The size of the Fourth Plan outlay as well

as allocations for the various sectors is under review. Agriculture will continue to receive high priority. Precise sectoral outlays will, however, emerge only after the completion of this review. Broad lines on which agricultural development should be brought about, have already been determined and incorporated in the Draft Outline; detailed programmes are worked out from year to year, and necessary outlays allocated for them, as required.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

Enquiry into complaints against Officers of Punjab National Bank

*381. Shri Abdul Ghani Dar:
Shri Ram Singh Ayerwal:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 301 on the 6th April, 1967 and state:

(a) whether the Committee which was appointed to look into complaints against the officers of the Punjab National Bank in May, 1965 has since submitted any interim report to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms of reference of the Committee;

(d) the nature of the complaints against the officers for which investigations are being made;

(e) when the final report is likely to be submitted; and

(f) whether the officers concerned are still working in the bank?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): (a) No committee has been specially appointed by Government for the purpose.

(b) and (f). As the investigations are still in progress, it will not be appropriate to disclose the details at this stage.

(c) and (d). The complaints are over certain purchases of securities by the bank.