

(c) when the Bill is likely to be introduced in the Parliament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c) Opinion of the State Governments has not been sought on the proposed draft Bill. The provisions of the draft Bill have not been finalised.

Melting and Circulation of Fake coins in Delhi

4976. **SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to minting and circulation of fake coins in Delhi as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' of 13 September, 1985 ; and

(b) if so, whether the culprits have been apprehended ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir. The matter was referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation. It is still under enquiry.

Tax Arrears Regarding Mysore and Bangalore Palaces

4977. **SHRI S. M. BHATTAM :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that Income Tax Department recently attached provisionally the Mysore Palace and Bangalore Palace ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government took the same on lease and rented out the same to Government Departments ;

(c) whether the said attachment is in respect of tax arrears ; and

(d) if so, the details of tax arrears and how it is proposed to be collected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, in respect of Mysore Palace, a Palace Advisory Committee was formed in 1976 at the instance of legal heirs of the late Maharaja for the upkeep and maintenance of the Palace. The Committee is chaired by Chief Secretary to the Karnataka Government. The Committee has let out certain portions of the building belonging to the Palace.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The total tax arrears amount to Rs. 13.61 crores (approx.) which include Rs. 9.32 crores relating to Income-tax and Wealth-tax and interest of Rs. 4.29 crores charged by the Tax Recovery Officer upto 31.3.1985. Of this, an amount of Rs. 6.76 crores is covered by proceedings pending before the Settlement Commission.

An order u/s 226 (3) of the Income-tax Act was issued to the tenants of Bangalore Palace to whom property is let out. But all of them have denied any liability to pay to Maharaja of Mysore. The rent is collected by M/s Chamundi Hotels (P) Ltd., Bangalore who has taken possession of Bangalore Palace under a sale agreement.

As regards Mysore Palace an order u/s 226 (3) was issued to the Secretary and the Chairman of Palace Advisory Committee. The Committee have sought extension of time for responding to this notice. At the same time Shri Srikantadatta Narasimharaja Wadiyar, son of the late Maharaja, has approached the Central Board of Direct Taxes for appointing a receiver.