

- (b) the reasons for taking them over ;
 (c) how they are managed now ; and
 (d) the amount spent by Government on their management ?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (M. C. Shah): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 7].

Shri S. C. Samanta : May I know how the balance-sheets of these government-managed companies compare with the balance-sheets of the ordinary insurance companies ?

Shri M. C. Shah : As a matter of fact, when insurance company is taken over, an administrator is appointed and effort is made to get a report from the administrator about amalgamating that insurance company with any other good insurance company. Therefore, it is not possible to tell the hon. Member how this works out. As a matter of fact we are just trying to bring down the cost of administration and the expense ratio and if possible, to amalgamate with other good insurance companies. All these insurance companies were taken over by the administrator because their expenditure ratio was very high and there was mismanagement.

Shri S. C. Samanta : May I know how many such insurance companies have been taken over and been amalgamated by Government ?

Shri M. C. Shah : We have taken over in all ten companies and administrators have been appointed. Some of the companies have been amalgamated. In Mysore an insurance company has been amalgamated with the Prithwi Insurance Co. Madras. The business of the National Mercantile Insurance Company has been transferred to the Mercantile Insurance Company Ltd., and some others have been ordered by the court to be taken to liquidation.

Shri S. C. Samanta : As regards my first supplementary question I want to know whether the expenditure that is being incurred by the Government is in any way more or less comparable with other ordinary insurance companies.

Shri M. C. Shah : The Government does not spend anything on the administration. The administrator's pay comes out of the funds of the insurance companies. As a matter of fact, we have taken over these companies in order to bring them under good management and to bring down the expenditure ratio. So, it takes some time to bring about these results.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy : Just now the Minister said that the insurance companies are taken over by Government to bring down the expenditure

ratio and also to bring about good management. Is it true that after the Jupiter and Empire of India Insurance Companies were taken over by Government and after some years of government management and control the expenditure has increased and the business has also suffered ?

Shri M. C. Shah : The expenditure has not increased, rather, the Empire of India Insurance Company is showing good results after it was taken over by the administrator. With regard to the Jupiter Insurance Company also because if in general insurance business there are certain difficulties. Otherwise the expenditure ratio has already been brought down and mismanagement has been replaced by good management.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy : May I know how far the expenditure has been cut down in these two companies after they had been taken over by Government ?

Shri M. C. Shah : I would refer the hon. Member to the balance sheets already published.

Mr. Speaker : I think 308 is an important question and it should be answered.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*308. **Shri P. N. Rajabhoj :** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the Scheme for providing Housing facilities to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes submitted by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes has been included in the Second Five Year Plan ?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has made certain general proposals which are at present under consideration.

Shri Nanadas : May I know whether the Planning Commission also is considering this question ?

Shri Datar : The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has made a recommendation that Rs. 10 crores should be reserved for the housing of Harijans in the Second Five Year Plan. This matter will go to the Planning Commission as early as possible.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether the recommendations made by the Commissioner have been communicated to the State Governments and if so, whether the State Governments have given their own opinion on the recommendations ?

Shri Datar : The State Governments have to be informally consulted and they can only agree then.