

lakh pieces as against about 12 lakh pieces up to October, 1970. The additional labour strength of 400 workmen sanctioned in the Bombay Mint is expected to be in position by the end of the current month and to contribute to an additional daily production of 6 lakh pieces by the end of the next two months by which time the new workers would have been adequately trained. As a result of the larger supplies made to the public during the last five or six months the situation has improved to some extent. Shortages are now localised specially in and in the States surrounding Delhi. This is being tackled by the Reserve Bank of India on an emergency basis. About Rs. 14 lakh worth of small coins have been rushed to New Delhi. Both the New Delhi and Kanpur offices of the Reserve Bank have been instructed to look into the requirements of small coin depots under their jurisdiction and to arrange immediately for despatch for additional supplies wherever necessary. Special arrangements have been made to meet the requirements of the Delhi Transport Undertaking so as to alleviate the difficulties that were being experienced by the travelling public.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no time. You can ask only one question

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The reply of the hon. Minister is that time heals the wound. May I know whether he is aware that for long in Delhi or in any big city small coins are not available. Even in the State Bank in the Parliament House, it is not available. I would like to know whether it is a fact that some people are really hoarding and selling small coins at the rate of 70 p. or even 60 p. for a rupee. In the shops, the postage stamps are being given to the consumers instead of small coins. I want to know when the position is going to improve and whether more coins are being produced in our mints.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : It is a problem that is causing concern to hon. Members and the Government is also aware of it. We have increased the daily production of coins from 12 lakh pieces to 35 lakh pieces. The tempo of production has increased and it is now about 50 lakh pieces. The Government's intention is to increase it to 70 lakh pieces this year. Certain steps have been taken in Bombay and Alipore Mints. There is the question of the Silver Refinery. We are going to take a decision about the Silver Refinery so that

the Silver Refinery workers could be accommodated in the Alipore Mint and the production there also could be increased.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Have you arrested any person in the country ?  
(Interruptions)

SHRI K. R. GANESH rose—

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : He was replying Sir. (Interruptions)

श्री बी. पी. शर्मा : मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। करेंसी बनाने का, नोट छापने का इस देश में सरकार के सिवा किसी को अधिकार नहीं है। लेकिन दिल्ली में डी टी यू नोट छापना शुरू कर रही है।

MR. SPEAKER : Not now. The Question Hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Interest charged by Nationalised Banks on loans to large and small scale industries

\*723. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of interest being charged at present on loans advanced to large scale and small scale industries by the Nationalised Banks; and

(b) the prevailing rate of interest before the Nationalisation of the Banks for similar advances ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). At present the banks are ordinarily charging 10½% to 12% and 9% to 10½% rate of interest on their advances to large scale industries and small scale industries respectively; though in some cases banks may be charging slightly higher rates depending upon the circumstances. The comm-

ponding rates of interest before nationalisation were  $8\frac{1}{2}\%$  to  $9\frac{1}{2}\%$  and  $8\%$  to  $9\frac{1}{2}\%$ . The increase in the rate of interest can be attributed mainly to the recent increase in the bank rate from  $5\%$  to  $6\%$ .

**Need for Mass Transport systems in Madras and Delhi**

\*726. SHRI BALADHANDAYUTHAM : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the preliminary studies undertaken by the Working Group on Metropolitan Transport Services of the Planning Commission have indicated the need for mass transport system in Madras and Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to introduce an effective mass transport system for these two cities ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the instance of the Metropolitan Transport Team of the Planning Commission, the Tamil Nadu Town Planning Department have completed a study on travel corridors for provision of a rapid mass transit system in Madras and the report thereon is under examination by the Team. The Central Road Research Institute has carried out a comprehensive study of mass transport system in Delhi and is expected to submit its report to the Metropolitan Transport Team shortly. Further action will be taken after receipt of the final recommendations of the Metropolitan Transport Team in respect of both the cities.

सामान्य बीमा के राष्ट्रीयकरण के परिणामस्वरूप प्राप्त वित्तीय संसाधनों का उपयोग

\* 738. श्री कमल मिश्र मधुकर :  
श्री सी. के. बक्रपाणि :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बीमा पंचवर्षीय योजना के परिचालित परिव्यय को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार का विचार सामान्य बीमा कंपनियों के राष्ट्रीयकरण से प्राप्त वित्तीय संसाधनों को किस सीमा तक उपयोग में लाने का है; और

(ख) राष्ट्रीयकृत सामान्य बीमा कंपनियों की पूँजी को किस ढंग से उपयोग में लाने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतासी) : (क) और (ख). विविध बीमा कंपनियों की निधियों का पहले से ही निवेश हुआ है। इन कंपनियों के वित्तीय साधनों में वृद्धि तभी हो सकेगी जब आगे चल कर उनके कारोबार का विस्तार होगा। विविध बीमा क्षेत्र की निधियों का निवेश यह ध्यान रख कर किया जायगा कि उन पर अधिकतम आमदनी प्राप्त हो, परन्तु साथ ही हमारी राष्ट्रीय प्राथमिकताओं और उद्देश्यों को भी ध्यान में रखा जायगा।

**Integrated Wages and Income Policy**

\*739. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to evolve an integrated wages and income policy to check the rising trend in prices; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) :

(a) and (b). A number of policy instruments are available to the Government for checking price increases; these include fiscal and monetary measures as well as physical and administrative controls. Steps are also being taken to increase the production of cash crops like cotton, groundnuts, oilseeds etc. which were primarily responsible for the price increases in recent months. The question of price increase is under constant review and all necessary steps are being taken to maintain price stability.