

policy;

(c) whether any discussion with representatives of industries and trade unions have been held before making any changes in the existing labour policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d). The process of streamlining the Labour Policy is in the nature of a continuous process. This exercise is undertaken by Government with close co-operation of the representatives of the employers and workers and through tripartite discussion. On the basis of wide ranging discussions held in the past in different forums including the Conference of State Labour Ministers and the Indian Labour Conference, amendments to some of the labour legislations are under consideration of Government with the objective of enhancing productivity, creating more employment opportunities, achieving speedier dispute resolution and securing harmonious industrial relations.

Development of Jaleshwar-Chandaneswar Road

2536. DR. KARTIKESWARPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has asked for the funds under the Loan Assistance Programme for inter-state or Economic Importance Schemes for the development of Jaleshwar Chandaneswar road;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The State Government of Orissa has forwarded

certain proposals for financing under the Centrally Aided Programme of State Roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance in the 8th Five Year Plan including the road in question costing Rs. 481.00 lakhs assigning it a lower priority in the list of prefects. Keeping in view the limited availability of funds, it is difficult to include the development of the road in question in the Eighth Plan under the aforesaid programme.

Loan Under 'Own your House Scheme' In Orissa

2537. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to set up some centers of LIC in Orissa for facilitation grant of housing loan under "Own Your House Scheme"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas where such centres of LIC have been opened or proposed to be opened?

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). At present LIC grants housing loans under "Own Your Home" (OYH) Scheme to its policyholders through its Divisional Office at Sambalpur. LIC Housing Finance Ltd. grants housing loans through its Area Office at Bhubaneswar. There is no proposal under consideration by Government to set up new centres of LIC for this purpose.

[*Translation*]

Purchases by Defence Organisations

2538. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made

it mandatory to purchase certain percentage of the direct purchases to be made by the Defence Organisations from the ex-Servicemen;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that this provision is strictly followed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). A reservation of 10% has been provided for the purchase of low technology items being manufactured by small scale units, owned by ex-Servicemen below 60 years of age, in direct purchases made by Defence establishments from the civil market, provided the quality and price are competitive.

(c) The purchasing authorities have been directed to ensure that:

(i) An ex-Serviceman entrepreneur who has tendered the lowest quotation should be awarded the entire work contract. In case the contract is awarded to a non ex-Serviceman, the ex-Serviceman entrepreneur, who has tendered rates nearest to the accepted tender should be offered 10% work contract at the rate quoted by the non ex-Serviceman entrepreneur.

(ii) After price settlement, the order should be placed on the selected ex-Serviceman entrepreneur with adequate number of ex-Servicemen kept in reserve, so that if the ex-Servicemen kept in reserve, so that if the ex-Servicemen quoting the lowest rates is not able to deliver the tendered goods, another ex-Serviceman could be given the chance to do so.

[English]

Profit/Loss of Public Sector Banks

2539. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the profit made and loss incurred by each of the public sector banks during the current year, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): The annual accounts of public sector banks for the year ending 31st March, 1993 are yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

Branch of Spanish Bank

2540. SHRI BALARAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Spain has made any offer to open a branch of its Bank in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have so far not received any proposal from the Government of Spain of from any commercial bank in Spain for opening a branch in India.

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

[English]

Brand rate Scheme for Export Products

2541. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: