

(b) if so, on what basis do they qualify?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). Public Financial Institutions consider applications for financial assistance from individual units on merits. Mohan Ortmann Ltd. has been sanctioned financial assistance in the past keeping in view *inter alia* the financial viability and the technical feasibility of the project, and its import-substitutive and export-oriented nature.

#### Misutilisation of Funds by AVARD

5275. SHRI R. J. BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD) has been granted an Income-tax exemption certificate;

(b) if so, how this was granted;

(c) whether it is also a fact that AVARD received 13 millions from EZE, a Christian organisation of West Germany for developing Musaheri (Muzaffarpur) in Bihar;

(d) the extent of financial assistance given to this Organisation by the Central and Bihar Governments since its inception; and

(e) whether Government have received any complaint against the AVARD regarding mis-utilisation of funds and whether its accounts have been got audited through the Accountant-General, Bihar or Central Revenues at any stage; if so, its outcome and if not, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) AVARD has been granted exemption under section 11 of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

(b) Exemption has been given as AVARD was found to be a charitable institution within the meaning of section 2(15) of the Income-tax Act, 1961

and the income was being applied for charitable purposes.

(c) As per income-tax records a total of Rs. 1,12,66,710/- has been received by AVARD from sources abroad during the period from December, 1958 to January, 1976, partly directly and partly through PADI (Peoples' Action for Development, India) which was functioning under Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation. Out of this amount Rs. 1,05,01,688/- has been received from Central Agency, West Germany, both in cash and kind. In reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 13 answered on 8-3-1976, it was *inter-alia*, indicated that AVARD received from Central Agency, West Germany both in cash and kind (fertilizers) Rs. 8,50,000/- as assistance. This amount was for rural development for minor irrigation programme in Musaheri and Jamui blocks in Muzaffarpur and Monghyr districts of Bihar.

(d) AVARD received Rs. 47,500 from Bihar Government for labour intensive work at Jamui. It further received Rs. 33,000/- from the Union Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation (Department of Rural Development) for Badulya Village Development. In this connection a reference may also be made to the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 13 answered on 8-3-1976.

(e) No, Sir. No information as to whether any special audit has been carried out either by Accountant General Central Revenues or Accountant-General Bihar is available on the income-tax records.

#### Number of Stockyards

5276. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA RATH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stockyard in our country at present;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to set up any new stockyard during this year;

(c) if so, whether any such stockyard is proposed to be set up at Paradeep of Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF CAMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):** (a) As on date there are 72 stockyards—59 of Steel Authority of India Limited including IISCO) and 13 TISCO.

(b) No, Sir. Setting up of new stockyards etc. is a matter of commercial nature to be decided by the producers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Frequent Visit of Showroom Managers of National Textile Corporation in Kerala**

5277. **PROF. P. J. KURIEN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Showroom Managers of NTC in Kerala are making frequent visits to Coimbatore Divisional Office;

(b) if so, reasons and the total TA received by the Showroom Managers of Ernakulam, Kottayam, Trichur and Palghat each; and

(c) steps taken to control frequent visit to Coimbatore Divisional Office?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN):** (a) to (c). The Managers of NTC's Showrooms in Kerala visit the Divisional Office at Coimbatore as and when necessary, in connection with work relating to on-the-spot selection and procurement of goods, reconciliation of accounts, consultations on administrative matter, etc. During the period from 1st April, 1980 to 31st January, 1981, a total amount of Rs. 2,834.70 was paid by way of TA to Showroom Managers as indicated below, which cannot be termed as excessive:-

(i) Ernakulam	Rs. 1,441.80
(ii) Kottayam	Rs. 1,050.95
(iii) Trichur	Rs. 263.90
(iv) Palghat	Rs. 78.05

**Private Chit Fund Companies**

5278. **SHRI MUNDAR SHARMA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many private 'Chit Funds' companies are running in this country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are thinking to ban these private 'Chit Funds' companies; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the security of public money?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA):** (a) As per the Reserve Banks record there were 1377 conventional chit fund companies in the private sector as on 15-12-80. The conduct of prize chits has since been banned with the coming into force the Prize Chits & Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978 with effect from 12-12-1978.

(b) There is no proposal at present to ban conventional chit fund companies.

(c) A Bill to regulate the conventional chit fund business has been introduced in the Lok Sabha.

**Serving of Liquor in Delhi Hotels Owned by I.T.D.C.**

5279. **SHRI MARTAND SINGH:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some hotels owned by the India Tourism Development Corporation in Delhi serve liquors to foreigners as well as Indians irrespective of the fact whether they are staying there or not;

(b) if so, whether this practice of serving liquor to non-residents is in