

AMOUNT GIVEN TO COTTON MILLS BY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK OF INDIA

3932. SHRI N. K. SOMANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans given by the Industrial Development Bank of India to cotton mills under rediscounting of bills covering sales of textile machinery on deferred payment basis during the years ended 30th June, 1967, 30th June, 1968 and 30th June, 1969;

(b) the terms of such financial assistance;

(c) the number and names of mills to which facility was given;

(d) the amount of direct finance and refinance of industrial loans provided by the Industrial Development Bank of India to cotton mills during the years 1968-69, 1967-68 and 1966-67; and

(e) the terms of these facilities, the number and the names of mills to which these facilities were given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

UPGRADING OF COIMBATORE CITY

3933. SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :

SHRI UMANATH :

SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI :

SHRI K. RAMANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Government employees organisations of Coimbatore City to upgrade the city as 'B' Grade; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received to declare Coimbatore a B-2 class city.

(b) The matter is under examination in consultation with the Government of Tamil Nadu.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE L.I.C. BY ONE SHRI S. K. RAY CHAUDHARY OF ASANSOL

3934. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SHAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether her attention has been drawn to certain complaints against the Life Insurance Corporation contained in a letter written by one Shri S. K. Ray Chaudhury of Asansol and published by the Economic Times, in its issue of 26th August, 1969;

(b) whether she would obtain necessary clarification from the Life Insurance Corporation for not transferring the Policy from Calcutta to Asansol despite having received 33 letters from the Policy-holder; and

(c) whether she would like to detail out the steps proposed to eliminate such instances which do not enhance the reputation of the Public Sector?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter was immediately taken up with the L.I.C. It was ascertained that the policy was transferred to the Asansol Divisional Office of the L.I.C. on 26th August, 1969 under advice to the policy-holder. There was delay of about 4 months in transferring the policy. The L.I.C. has denied having received 33 letters during this period.

(c) The L.I.C. has provided controls at different levels for processing complaints. Heads of offices are directed to fix responsibility for lapses, and take suitable disciplinary action against employees responsible for giving cause of complaint. Heads of offices are also directed to set right procedural defects giving rise to complaints.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY HIGH PRICES OF DRUGS

3935. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that he has recently set up a Committee to study the high prices of drugs.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Tariff Commission recently enquired into the costs of production of 18 basic drugs and 69 formulations with a view to recommending reasonable consumer prices for them and that its report has already been submitted to Government which is studying it since August, 1968; and

(c) if the answers to question (a) and (b) above be in affirmative, the reasons for setting up yet another Committee to examine drug prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) An informal Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Health, Family Planning, Works, Housing and Urban Development for considering several problems pertaining to drugs.

(b) Yes. The report is still under consideration of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals.

(c) The scope of the Informal Drugs Committee is different from that of the Tariff Commission. The scope and functions of this Committee are;

- (1) To examine ways and means of reducing pilferage of drugs from Hospitals.
- (2) To examine the manner in which drug industry and trade could assist the Government in their campaign against the spurious drugs.
- (3) To examine how best prices of drugs intended for hospitals run by Government and other semi-Government institutions could be brought down.
- (4) To examine how best patent and proprietary medicines could be made available to public at reasonable prices.

(5) To seek the cooperation of doctors in general and the physicians in hospitals in particular for discriminate prescribing of drug so that the drug bill could be reduced.

(6) To consider the possibility of promoting a voluntary code among drug manufacturers and in the medical profession for keeping down free sampling of drugs and promotional literature of drugs to the minimum.

COST OF DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FLATS

3936. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH :

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of the flats being offered by the Delhi Development Authority from time to time is very much on the high side;

(b) whether it is also a fact that cost of the flats includes administrative and management charges for the construction during hire purchase period;

(c) whether it is further a fact that these charges are recovered from those allottees also who make cash down payment; and

(d) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.