

for the introduction of terminal tax on goods and people entering the city by rail, road or Sea ;

(b) whether she assured the Mayor that she would consider the suggestion ; and

(c) whether any decision has been arrived at and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) The Mayor of Calcutta had in a Memorandum given to the Prime Minister during his last visit to the city suggested the levy of a terminal tax on goods and passengers carried by the railways as one of several measures for improving the financial position of the Calcutta Corporation.

(b) and (c) The proposal to levy a terminal tax on goods and passengers carried by the railways to/from cities other than pilgrim centres has been considered in the past. The view taken has been that such a levy would be administratively inconvenient and its yield would be rather small. The Fifth Finance Commission who recently considered this matter in detail have also expressed a similar view.

Conversion of Loans Advanced to Industries into Equity Shares

1005. SHRI C.K. BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation and the Industrial Finance Corporation are against conversion of loans advanced to industries into equity shares ; and

(b) whether they were consulted before the proposal was mooted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) The Life Insurance Corporation and the Industrial Finance Corporation are not known to have formulated any official views on the recommendations of the Industrial Licensing Policy Inquiry Committee in regard to conversion of loans advanced by the financial institutions to industries into equity shares.

(b) Government are informed that the two Corporations were requested by the

Committee to furnish various statistical data but were not consulted on the specific conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee.

Losses in Public Sector Enterprises

1006. SHRI S. M. SOLANKI :
SHRI D. N. PATODIA :
SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA :
SHRI N. R. DEOGHARE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the reasons laying behind the public sector suffering losses almost in all Government enterprises ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : Out of 55 running concerns, as on 31-3-1968, 31 made profit during the year 1967-68 whereas the remaining 24 incurred losses. It would not, therefore, be correct to generalise that the public sector as a whole is incurring losses.

Some of the reasons for losses in the public sector are high capital intensive investment involving long gestation periods, high incidence of depreciation, under utilisation of capacity due to recession in the economy, general increase in costs of materials, wages, etc.

Family Planning Programme and its effect on Living Standards

1007. SARI N. R. DEOGHARE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the birth and death rates in the country in the last three years ;

(b) the effect of family planning programme on the birth and death rates.

(c) how far the Family Planning Programme has effected the standard of living of people of the country in the rural and the urban areas ; and

(d) the expected fall in the birth rate during the next three years as a result of the Family Planning Programme ?