

by the Reserve Bank to examine the feasibility of opening offices on a priority basis at centres in the under-banked districts in the States of Assam, Bihar, Orissa and Nagaland without waiting for the completion of detailed surveys of the districts under the Lead Bank Scheme.

(b) and (c). As indicated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1800, answered in Lok Sabha on 20th November, 1970, every effort is being made by the banks to step up their lending to agriculture, small scale industry and other categories of small borrowers. There is, however, no intention to deny credit to trade or industry, required for productive purposes. It is not considered necessary or desirable to earmark any portion of bank credit for any particular sector as such.

Educational Services

5359. SHRI MANGALATHUMADAM : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government for starting an Educational Service on the lines of the one like I. A. S. and I. F. S. :

(b) whether this proposal has been studied by the University Grants Commission or any high power body under the Ministry ; and

(c) if so, the details of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. However there is a proposal to constitute a Central Educational Service. Its details have not yet been finalized.

Construction of a Bridge across River Ganga near Monghyr

5360. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from a Member of Parliament about the construction of a bridge across the river Gana near Monghyr, an important town in Bihar ;

(b) if so, the main arguments in support of this bridge given in the representation and the enclosed documents ;

(c) whether Government propose to undertake a feasibility study ; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not examining the proposal in depth ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) : (a) to (d). Presumably the Member is referring to the Memorandum submitted by the Monghyr, Vikas Samiti to the Government of Bihar, a copy of which has been forwarded by him to the Government of India for having the proposal for the construction of the proposed bridge examined. As the proposed bridge would fall on a State road, the Government of Bihar are primarily concerned with its construction. The State Government have, therefore, been requested to intimate the action taken/proposed to be taken on the Memorandum submitted by the Monghyr Vikas Samiti.

Wage Increase for Government Staff

5361. SHRI LOBO PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) with reference to report in *Hindustan Times* of the 28th November, 1970 that the Kerala Chief Minister favours a holiday on wage increases for Government staff, as during the last four years his Government had expended between 30 to 40 crores of rupees on salary increases, which diverted to industrialisation would have increased employment opportunities, what steps will be taken to check further demands of staff, which the Pay Commission is considering ;

(b) whether Government propose to refer to the Pay Commission to consider that increases arising from inflation are funded to the Provident Funds of the employees, as that would check the neutralisation of the increase from corresponding increase in prices ; and

(c) whether the Centre will consider giving the States the amount required by the States by deduction from the grants it makes outside the provisions of the Finance Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b). According to the terms of reference of the 3rd