

tives and subsidies, provision of concessional finance and infrastructural developments.

Clearance of Projects sponsored by non-resident Indians

*284. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish a special cell in the Ministry of Industry to clear the projects sponsored by non-resident Indians;

(b) whether any other suggestion for some such concession has been made by the non-resident Indians; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) A single-window clearance to the proposals from Non Resident Indians for grant of industrial licence, import of capital goods and for foreign collaboration approvals is provided in the Ministry of Industry. A Section set up for this purpose has been functioning for the past three years in the Ministry of Industry.

(b) and (c). Various suggestions made by non-resident Indians regarding fiscal and other concessions to them and streamlining of procedures etc. are considered by a Consultative Committee on NRI matters constituted by the Ministry of Finance. Suitable changes in the policy/procedure for NRI investments are made wherever necessary.

Expenditure Commission to check Government spending

*285. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Institute of Economic studies has suggested the establishment of Expenditure Commission to keep an eye on Government spending; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b). The Institute of Economic studies has suggested setting up of a full fledged Expenditure Commission for carrying out an intensive expenditure management system.

The Government have been continuously making efforts to control expenditure. The Prime Minister has, while presenting the Central Government Budget for 1987-88 already announced in Parliament, the Constitution of a Cabinet Committee on Expenditure to monitor the implementation of various measures which the Government propose to take in this regard.

Cleaning of Ganga water

*287. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ganga water is polluted all along from Gangotri to Ganga Sagar;

(b) whether large scale urban waste from large and small cities and towns is discharged into Ganga in this stretch; and

(c) the steps taken to make the river pollution free in this stretch ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The studies by the Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution indicate that pollution of the river is extensive and the stretches from Kanauj to Allahabad in U.P. and Kalyani to Diamond Harbour in West Bengal are significantly affected.

(b) Yes; Sir.

(c) For prevention of pollution of the river, the following type of schemes have been identified under the Ganga Action Plan :

(1) Interception of wastewater and diversion away from the river to treatment locations.

- (2) Treatment of wastewater with recovery of resources.
- (3) Low Cost Sanitation.
- (4) Facilities for direct river users.
- (5) Biological conservation schemes.

These schemes cover 27 Class-I cities located along the bank of the river. Work has already commenced in 22. During the 7th Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 240 crores has been allocated for execution of the schemes under the Plan.

Industrial Advisory Cell in State Bank of Travancore

*292. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Industrial Advisory Cell has been set up in the State Bank of Travancore;

(b) if so, the location thereof and the salient features of the cell;

(c) whether any other nationalised banks have set up any such cells if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether these cells give any special preference to industries which are planned to be located in backward areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The State Bank of Travancore has reported that they have not set up any Industrial Advisory Cell, but there is a Technical Consultancy Cell functioning at their Head Office in Trivandrum. The Cell caters to the requirements of small scale sector. It evaluates new projects and conducts feasibility studies of sick small scale units. It also provides counselling to the new as well as existing entrepreneurs, besides conducting entrepreneur development programmes.

(c) and (d). Some nationalised banks have set up Technical Consultancy Cells, whose main function is to provide information to entrepreneurs and to undertake feasibility studies. They also provide information to the entrepreneurs regarding

special incentives available for projects to be set up in backward areas.

Excise rebate on minor oils used in Vanaspati manufacture

*293. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Vanaspati Producers' Association has demanded increase in the excise rebate for minor oils used in the manufacture of vanaspati from Rs. 1000/- per tonne to Rs. 1500/- per tonne; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After due consideration, the suggestion was not found acceptable.

Proposal to open Zonal Office of G.I.C. in Patna

*294. DR. C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar is an economically backward state;

(b) whether there was any proposal to open the Zonal Office of General Insurance Corporation at Patna, to improve the economy and to provide facilities to people there; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Bihar is not as developed as some of the other States.

The four general insurance companies which are subsidiaries of the General Insurance Corporation do not have Zonal Offices but have a system of Regional Offices which supervise the work of Divisional Offices and Branch Offices. The setting up of a Regional Office is governed by