

(c) when the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (c). The existing aerodrome at Trivandrum is already being utilised for services connecting this station with Colombo.

Location of Northern India of Company Law a Department Regional Offices at Kanpur

*537. **SHRI S. S. KOTHARI:** Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have received representation from Stock Exchanges and other authorities that the public are greatly inconvenienced owing to the Northern India regional office of the Company Law Department being located at Kanpur;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take necessary steps to transfer the location of the Office from Kanpur to Delhi; and

(c) whether it is a fact that more than half the companies in the Northern region are located in the Delhi area?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal to create a new regional office of the Company Law Board with Headquarters at Delhi to cater to the needs of the companies in the Northern Region is under consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

U. S. Grant to East India Hotel Ltd.

*538. **SHRI A. SREEDHARAN:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U. S. Government have recently extended a loan of Rs. 44 crores to the East India Hotel Ltd. for constructing a hotel in Bombay;

(b) if so, the terms of the loan granted; and

(c) whether permission of the Central Government was obtained before applying

for loan and if not, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir. They have given them a loan of Rs. 4.35 crores out of the PL-480 Cooley funds.

(b) The loan is repayable in rupees over a period of 18 years including a grace period of 2½ years. It carries interest at 8% per annum.

(c) Before any Cooley loan is extended the U.S. Government obtains the concurrence of the Government of India. This was done in this case also.

Urdu Language

*539. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state:

(a) what further steps have been taken to popularise Urdu language in the country;

(b) whether any financial assistance has been given to some of the institutions for this purpose; and

(c) if so, which are those institutions and amount given in 1969?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO):

(a) For the development of Urdu language, the Government of India has already set up a Central Board called Tarraqi-e-Urdu Board to make available under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of production of literature in Indian languages, academic literature as well as other types of literature in Urdu including science books for disseminating modern knowledge and children's literature, reference works and encyclopaedias and basic texts etc. The Board is directing its efforts towards the enrichment of the whole field of knowledge in Urdu with emphasis on Science, technology and modernity and not merely on humanistic literature. About 1000 scholars of Urdu are connected with the programmes of the Board as Members of the Board, of its various Committees and subject panels and as Translators and Authors. On the recommendations of the subject panels, the Board has so far selected 583 titles for translation and original writing out of which 400 titles have been given to trans-

lators and authors. The work is progressing smoothly.

(b) and (c). Apart from the allocation of Rs. one crore made available to the Tarraqi-e-Urdu Board for production of Urdu literature, the Ministry has rendered financial assistance to various voluntary organisations for implementation of projects connected with the development of Urdu language. It has been decided in principle to give a grant of Rupees four lacs to the Anjuman Taraqqi-Urdu Hind, Aligarh for the construction of 'URDU GHAR' at Delhi on the condition that it will provide suitable accommodation for the offices of Tarraqi-e-Urdu Board. The other institutions which received assistance during 1969 are—

1. Adabi Markaz, New Delhi Rs. 595.00
2. Majlis-Ishat-E-Adab, —Rs. 4,000.00
Delhi
3. Anjuman Taraqqi- —Rs. 38,000.00
Urdu Hind, Aligarh
4. Abul Kalam Azad —Rs. 12,000.00
Oriental Research
Institute, Hyderabad.

Allocation of Amount from Small Savings to States

* 540. SHRI R. K. BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Governments have asked the Central Government that two-thirds of the net collections of small savings given to the States be treated as loans in perpetuity;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have rejected the State's plea; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R.
GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has not been found possible to accept the suggestion that these loans may be treated as loans in perpetuity. The question of modifying the terms of the loans is, however under active consideration.

(c) Loans, by their very definition, are repayable. Moreover, as repayment from the States on this account is part of the Central Government's estimated resources

any reduction therein will seriously affect its ability to fulfil the plan objectives.

Assistance to Rajasthan for Famine Relief Works

3289. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent by the Centre for the famine relief programme in Rajasthan so far;

(b) whether road construction project was a failure and a Central team has severely criticised it saying that roads were constructed without following technical standards and specifications and even these wrong roads were not maintained properly; and

(c) whether Government propose to appoint a high-level Committee to inquire into the matter and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA
CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). Since 1969-70, Central assistance amounting to Rs. 70 crores has been provided to the Government of Rajasthan towards the expenditure incurred by them so far on drought relief measures.

The Central team which visited Rajasthan in May, 1970 for a review of the drought situation and the requirement of funds for relief measures for purposes of Central assistance had, in its report, made certain suggestions for improving the administration and supervision of various relief works, including road construction works. The suggestions which were made in the interest of expeditious completion of relief works and their proper maintenance subsequently have been communicated to the State Government for their consideration.

Central assistance towards natural calamities relief measures is released on a reimbursement basis, in the light of progress of expenditure incurred by the State Governments concerned, subject to the ceilings fixed for this purpose. The assistance is finalised on the basis of audited figures of expenditure as certified by the State Accountant General. The implementation of the relief programme