

The document on the Annual Plan 1967-68 incorporating the decisions of the Commission will be placed on the Table of the House in the current session

As regards Union Territories, the Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs 70 crores for the current year's Annual Plan

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Fertilizer Plants in Private Sector

*971 *Shrimati Suseela Gopalan:*
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:
Shri P. Gopalan

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fertilizer Corporation of India in its recent memorandum to the Government has protested against the setting up of the Fertilizer Plants in the private sector,

(b) if so the grounds on which the protest has been based and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) No, Sir, there was no protest. But in the context of two projects then under consideration, the FCI did put forward reasons for their being implemented by the Corporation

(b) Various considerations based on the past performance of the private sector and the advantages of public sector initiative in promoting indigenous design engineering and fabrication were advanced

(c) In the two cases referred to, the Government decided to entrust the projects to the FCI for implementation.

L.I.C.

*972 *Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:*
Shri Bhagaban Das:
Shri B. K. Modak:
Shri Umanath:
Shri C. K. Chakrapani.

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has abolished reversionary annuity, as was issued by the Hindu Family Annuity Fund, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

Purchase of Computers

*974. *Shri Virendrakumar Shah:*
Shri M. Amersey:
Shri S. K. Tapariah:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government purchased last year 10 Computers at a cost of about Rs 2 crores,

(b) whether it is also a fact that the whole lot has been lying idle in a store in Delhi, and

(c) whether one of the ten computers was being offered to the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore, even though the computer of the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., Bangalore can be easily made available to the former when required?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Deas): (a) The Government of India have entered into an agreement on 28th June, 1966 with M/s Honeywell Inc of the USA for the purchase of 10 Honeywell Computer Systems Model 400 with spare parts for 5 years at a concessional price of \$125,000 each i.e. \$1.25 million (Rs 98.75 lakhs) in all.

(b) No, Sir So far only two Computers have been received and arrangements are in hand to have them installed shortly by the Department of Statistics at the Computer Centre, New Delhi

(c) The Computer with the Hindustan Machine Tools, Bangalore is basically meant for data processing only and cannot be used by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore for their scientific work relating to aircraft design including three dimensional flutter analysis Since the Honeywell computer is suitable for the latter it is intended to allocate to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited one of the machines yet to be imported

Grant to Indian Red Cross Society

*975. Shri J. H. Patel:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri George Fernandes:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government give annual grants to the Indian Red Cross Society,

(b) whether certain irregularities in the matter of appointment to certain posts in the Indian Red Cross Society, expenditure on travelling allowances, etc have been brought to Government's notice, and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. S. Chandrasekhar):

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) A representation was received and referred to the Indian Red Cross Society for suitable action. The Managing Body of the Society found the representation to be groundless

Upgrading of Amritsar

*976 Shri Yajna Datt Sharma:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1860 on the 8th June, 1967 regarding upgrading of Amritsar and state

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the records of the Amritsar Municipal Committee, the population of the city increased to 4,16,271 in 1966 whereas according to the 1961 Census it was only 3,98,047,

(b) whether Government propose to upgrade this city in view of the fact that the population has crossed the target figure of four lakhs to qualify it for B-2 status, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant):

(a) Government have no official information in the matter. But from the attested copy of a letter from the Executive Officer, Amritsar Municipal Committee, forwarded by the National Federation of P and T. Employees, it appears that population of the city has shown an increase by 40,720, as compiled from the record of births and deaths from 1962 to 1966

(b) and (c) No, Sir At present only cities with a population of over 4 lakhs, as per 1961 Census, have been classified as 'B-2' for the purpose of the grant of house rent and compensatory (city) allowances to the Central Government employees stationed therein. Since the population of Amritsar according to 1961 Census is 3,98,047, it does not qualify for upgradation as 'B-2' class