

Bank of India during 1965 and 1966, so far;

(b) the total number of applications rejected during the above period; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri):

(a) 1965 54252

1966 (upto the end of June) 27660

(b) 1991

(c) These applications were rejected as they were not covered under the rules.

Cases under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act

**1346. Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Daljit Singh:**

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

(a) the number of cases challaned and convicted under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act of the wholesalers and manufacturers in each State during the first half of 1966; and

(b) the number of cases challaned and convicted under the same Act of the retailers in each State during the above period?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Automation in L.I.C.

**1347. Shrimati Malmoona Sultan:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
Shri Maheswar Naik:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the Life Insurance Corporation throughout India have been struggling against automation and its Central Collection Office came

to standstill on the 5th July, 1966 on this account;

(b) if so, their precise demands; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) For some time past one of the L.I.C. Employees' Unions has been agitating against the installation of computers in the L.I.C. The Centralised Cash Collection Centres at various places in the country functioned more or less normally on the 5th July, 1966.

(b) The demand of that Union is that the L.I.C. should not instal computers in its offices.

(c) The L.I.C. have pointed out repeatedly that introduction of Computers will not lead to any retrenchment of staff. On the other hand, computers are necessary for compilation of accounts and statistics, and for better service to policy-holders. Government agree with the view of the L.I.C.

Rural Electrification Programme

**1348. Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 743 on the 24th March, 1966 and state the measures adopted to study and correct the imbalance in rural electrification programme, State-wise?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): By the end of the Third Plan approximately 9.6 per cent villages had been electrified but there are as many as eight States which are yet to attain the All India average.

In order to remove this disparity the State Authorities have been advised to draw up their rural electrification schemes for the Fourth Plan in such a way as to electrify 15 to 20 per cent villages in their State along with energisation of clusters of pumps/tube-wells.

This question is proposed to be discussed further in a Conference of Chairmen of State Electricity Boards which is being convened. Further action will be taken in the light of the decisions arrived at the Conference.

Use of Foreign Cars by Ministers

1349. **Shri D. J. Naik:**
Shri P. C. Boroah:

Will the Ministers of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign cars at present being used by the Ministers of Central Government; and

(b) whether Government propose to withdraw all foreign cars in order to set an example of austerity to the people?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) Twenty-nine imported cars were available as in July, 1966 for use by Ministers. Some of the Ministers have since changed over to indigenous cars or are likely to do so soon.

(b) It has been decided to go in for Indian-built cars in future except where the requirement is mainly for foreign visitors and V.I.Ps. The question of optimum utilisation of the imported cars already with Ministries is under consideration.

Evasion of Income-Tax in Orissa

1350. **Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:**
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the number of cases regarding the evasion of income-tax in Orissa which are pending as on the 30th June, 1966?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): 197.

Committee on Hospitals

1351. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:**
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri M. N. Swamy:

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Brij Basi Lal:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 726 on the 25th August, 1966 and state:

(a) whether Government have since decided to appoint a Committee to go into the working of the hospitals which are overcrowded and are short of medicines and staff;

(b) if so, when the Committee is likely to be appointed; and

(c) when the report is likely to be submitted to Government?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) to (c). It is proposed to appoint a Study Group which will undertake a study of the working of different classes of hospitals in this country with a view to improving standards of medical care and developing sound guide-lines for the future expansion of hospital services in the country. This will be a small Committee consisting of about eight members. Orders constituting this Committee are expected to issue shortly and the Committee is expected to complete its work in six months.

Ambulance Cars in Irwin Hospital, New Delhi

1352. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:**
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri M. N. Swamy:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:

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

(a) whether the attention of Government was drawn to the newspaper reports that all the three ambulances in the Irwin Hospital, Delhi, were out of order for several months;

(b) whether Government conducted an enquiry into the matter; and