

consideration/finalised for 1997-98 to develop, upgrade, strengthen and modernise banking network in Amravati division headquarter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) State Bank of India (SBI) have reported that there has been occasional demands in 1995 and early 1996 for creation of a Zonal Office at Amravati. The demand was not accepted as its Zonal Office at Nagpur headed by a Deputy General Manager and having six regions each under an AGM controlling the branches in the 9 districts (including Amravati district) of Vidharbha region is adequate to cater to the banking requirements of the districts.

(c) SBI have further reported that their Zonal Office at Nagpur is well connected by infrastructure facilities like transport, communication etc. to afford easy access to the customers as well as Bank officials for administrative expediency.

(d) No such action plan has been formulated by SBI in this regard.

Foreign Tours by Chief Minister

2760. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Karnataka and other 21 members have undertaken foreign tour in the month of June, 1997;

(b) if so, the places visited by them and the foreign exchange sanctioned by the Government;

(c) whether the Government has also sanctioned foreign exchange for medical treatment of the Chief Minister in USA;

(d) if so, the amount sanctioned in dollars;

(e) whether the Government have permitted them to enter into various MOUs and other agreements with foreign companies;

(f) whether the delegation had any representative of the Government of India; and

(g) the estimated amount of foreign investment came from the above visit to Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) An 8-member delegation led by Shri J.H.Patel, Chief Minister, Karnataka visited USA and UK from 14th to 27th June, 1997. The delegation was also joined by representatives of Industries.

(b) to (d) The places visited by the delegation were Pittsburg, Washington, Newyork, Boston and London. The

Indian Embassy/High-Commission in USA and UK were authorised to incur expenditure on the following:

(i) Daily allowance and arrangements for hotel accommodation as per the Government prescribed scales.

(ii) Entertainment allowance and contingencies as per the Government prescribed scales.

(iii) Transportation on actual basis.

(iv) Sumptuary allowance of USD 5000/- & secretarial assistance of USD 500/-

(v) Hiring of two limousine cars for the delegation.

The Chief Minister had undergone a medical reference by the specialist during his visit to USA for which an amount of USD 18,350/- was sanctioned by Govt. of Karnataka.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) 36 companies are stated to have shown keen interest to invest in various projects in Karnataka and the likely investment expected to be Rs. 1100 crores.

Premium Collected By LIC in Assam

2761. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA:

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of premium collected by life Insurance Corporation in the country from the policy holders during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the amount invested in developmental work by L.I.C. in the States during the above period, State-wise;

(c) whether there is a decline in investment for developmental works compared to the collection of premium; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the attached Statement.

(c) and (d) The LIC has reported that the percentage of total investment to total premium income increased to 37.05% in 1996-97 as compared to 36.84% in 1994-95. However, on account of lack of suitable developmental and infrastructural projects, the investment came down to 33.69% in the year 1995-96.