

lation requiring taxpayers to quote their Permanent Account Numbers in documents relating to transfer to property etc., the scheme of permanent Account Numbers will discourage benami transactions and thus curb tax evasion.

RISE IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

114. SHRI PREM MANOHAR :
SHRI PITAMBER DAS :
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI :
SHRI RATTAN LAL JAIN :
SHRI D. K. PATEL :
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD
MATHUR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the National average consumer price Index number for Industrial workers has reached 238 ;

(b) whether the workers are getting the increased dearness allowance according to the recommendations of the Gajendragadkar Commission ; and

(c) if so, since when, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) The All India Average Consumer Price Index number for industrial workers for the month of May, 1972, which is the latest available, was 238 (Base 1949= 100). The 12-monthly average for that month was 235.66.

(b) and (c) Presumably, by the term "workers" Central Government employees are meant. If so, an increase in the rate of dearness allowance was given to Central Government employees with effect from 1.9.68 on the 12-monthly average of All India Price Index number (1949=100) reaching 215 in terms of the recommendations of the Gajendragadkar Commission. Subsequently, on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission, interim relief and additional interim relief were allowed on the 12-monthly average of the index number reaching 218 and 228 respectively.

INQUIRIES INTO TAX EVASION BY BAJORIAS AND JALANS MONOPOLY HOUSE

115. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :
SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased

to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 331 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23.5.1972 and to state whether any further inquiries and investigation have been conducted into the tax evasion and monopolisation by the Bajorias and Jalans, in the light of revelations in the Book entitled 'Mystery of Bajorias and Jalans'; if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : The book entitled 'Mystery of Bajoria Jalan House' has been examined partly. In respect of 38 out of 99 companies of this group, the book does not contain any new information not already with the Income-tax Department. This group has been under constant investigation from the time of the Income-tax Investigation Commission, 1947. A new cell is being created in the Directorate of Inspection (Investigation) for keeping a watch over big industrial houses including the house of Bajoria, Jalans.

OPERATION OF FINANCING SYSTEM IN COUNTRY

116. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: SHRI
KALI MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the latest analysis of the operation of banking system in the country as published in the Statesman of June 15, 1972, captioned 'Banks Turning Back to Financing Big Industries';

(b) if so, whether any independent studies have been made by Government in this regard and how far the results of such study conform to the said analysis ; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure adequate credit facilities to priority sectors of agriculture and small industry ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government keeps on reviewing the emerging trends in the field of bank finance on a continuous basis. Many of the conclusions drawn in the article referred to in part (a) of the question differ from those based on these reviews. Finance to hitherto neglected sectors such as agriculture and small scale industry continues to be accorded a high priority.