

buildings, extension of wealth tax to agricultural property and the recent policy decisions to impose ceilings on urban properties and agricultural lands by the State Governments would impose a virtual ceiling on incomes in urban and rural areas.

SHIFTING OF THE DEFENCE ACCOUNTS CONTROLLER OFFICE.

562. **SHRI SURAJ PRASAD** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the office of the Controller of Defence Accounts is proposed to be shifted from Patna to some other place out of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) There is no proposal to shift the office of the Controller of Defence Accounts, Patna, as such, to any other place outside Bihar. There is, however, a sub-office at Shillong which is proposed to be strengthened.

(b) Lack of adequate communications has often resulted in delays in payments for supplies, services and to men. Strengthening the office at Shillong will avoid these delays.

WORLD BANK AID TO INDIA

563. **SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO** :
SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank had recently undertaken a study of debt relief required by India in the last two years of the Fourth Plan and that a consultant of the World Bank recently visited India to have discussions on the subject; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the extent to which debt relief is likely to be received from the World Bank ?

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

(b) The matter is still under discussion amongst the members of the Aid India Consortium.

SALE PROMOTION TRIP OF CONCORDE—002

564. **SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO** : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Concorde-002, the Anglo-French Supersonic Jetliner, recently halted in Bombay during its sale promotion trip; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the usefulness of the jetliner and the possibility of purchasing it ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The Concorde stopped at Bombay both on its outward and return trips to and from the Far East and Australia.

(b) Air India has reserved options for 2 Concorde aircraft. These options are, however, without any commitment and no decision has been taken to purchase the planes.

FAST PETROL BOATS FOR INDIAN NAVY

565. **SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO** : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to build at Mazagaon Dock fast petrol boats for the Indian Navy with some foreign collaboration;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been reached in this regard with any foreign collaborator; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A collaboration agreement is under negotiation. It will not be in the public interest to give its details.

NATIONALISATION OF FOREIGN BANKS

566. **SHRI SWAISINGH SISODIA** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to nationalise the foreign banks and some Scheduled banks in the country in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

The reasons for not nationalising the foreign banks and other banks in the private sector have been indicated to Parliament on more than one occasion. There is no change in the Government's stand in this regard.