

(c) the amounts paid in lieu of various taxes under each head ?]

गृह मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री एफ० एच० मोहसिन) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है तथा जितनी उपलब्ध होगी सभा पटल पर रख दी जायगी ।

t [THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.]

CONTRACT FOR SALT HANDLING AT GOVERNMENT SALT GOLAH, SALKIA, HOWRAH

722. SHRI J. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether contract for salt handling at the Government Salt Golah, Saikia, Howrah was entrusted to a Co-operative Society in 1965 by the Salt Commissioner, Jaipur, and that no Open Tenders have been invited since then ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether an increase in the handling rates was also granted in the year 1967 and if so, under what considerations ;

(d) whether Government have any proposal now to invite Open Tenders for the above contract in the Public interest ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Tenders were invited for the award of the contract twice in 1965 and the contract was entrusted to Handling Porters' Co-operative Society Ltd., keeping in view the declared policy of the Government to encourage co-operative effort and also the fact that the Society was experienced in the line. Taking into consideration the satisfactory performance of the Co-operative Society, the period of the contract was extended from time to time without calling for tenders and the last extension was given for two years with effect from 5-1-1971.

f [] English translation.

(c) Other terms and conditions remaining unchanged, the rate relating to import work was increased from Rs. 80/- to Rs. 90/- per thousand maunds with effect from 5-1-1967, in view of the general rise in prices in Calcutta.

(d) and (e) This aspect will be considered by the Government when the term of the existing contract of the Society will expire in January, 1973.

STUDY OF BASIC ECONOMIC ISSUES

723. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Economic Policy Body of the Cabinet has recently started studying basic economic issues ; and

(b) if so, the result of the study so far made ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) A Cabinet Committee on Economic Policy has been set up to keep under review the economic policy of the Country. The review is a continuous process. The¹ Committee is a part of various devices used internally by the Cabinet for the convenient and expeditious transaction of its business.

PROMOTION TO DIRECT RECRUIT SECTION OFFICERS

724. OHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the chances of promotion available to Direct Recruit Section Officers in Central Secretariat are much less than those available to other Central Service Officers ;

(b) whether as a result of this inequality of opportunity, a number of Direct Recruit Section Officers who passed the I. A. S. examination with very high ranks have to work under officers who passed the same examination with Lower Ranks and in subsequent years ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to remove this inequality to Direct Recruit Section Officers ?