

LOANS GRANTED BY S.T.C.

*183. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of loans granted by the State Trading Corporation and how many of these have been repaid in part or in full; and

(b) how much of these has been lent to Directors or share-holders of the Corporation or their concerns?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) Total loans granted by the State Trading Corporation upto 31-3-1963 amounted to Rs. 7,31,00,000. Out of this Rs. 7,05,50,000 have been fully repaid by the parties concerned.

(b) Nil.

EXTENSION OF BANKING FACILITIES TO TOWNS WITHOUT BANKS

/ SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: ¹ ' DR. A. SUBBA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of towns in the country without banking facilities;

(b) if so, the exact number of such towns; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to extend banking facilities to these towns?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) According to the 1961 census, there were 2,690 towns in the country of which 922 towns are still without banking facilities.

(c) The Reserve Bank is following the policy of showing preference while granting licences for opening new places of business, to banks which are willing to extend their activities to

towns without banking facilities. Besides, the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries have been making good progress in opening new offices at unbanked centres.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR HIGHER MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN INDIA

*191. SHRI R. K. BHUWALKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) what are the aims and objects 'of the newly constituted "National Committee for Higher Medical Education and Training in India; and

(b) in what way the committee is going to help in the development of the general standards of medical education?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) and (b) The aims and objects of the National Committee for Higher Medical Education and Training in India, which is now being re-designated as the "National Committee for Post-graduate Education and Training in Medical Sciences and Allied Professions in India", are to formulate principles and policies concerning development of Postgraduates Education and Training in Medical Sciences and Allied Professions. The Committee will generally make recommendations on the above subjects and suggest suitable measures to be adopted by Government including suggestions for coming Plan. The Central Government will be able to get advice on financial, equipment, staffing requirements of institutions, their manpower (special or non-special) requirements, and standards, the assistance required by State Governments, the employment of personnel and the orientation of courses to suit the Conditions in which they work or teach and the connected matters.