

the publication of these journals for the simple reason that they were running at a loss of about Rs. 75,000 a year?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: It is a fact, Sir, that the Estimates Committee had made such a suggestion, but in the next meeting or rather the next round of the Estimates Committee the matter was reviewed again and the Government was asked to reconsider this question. We have given our thought to the matter and we feel that it would be a great pity to close down these two journals which have been going on for such a long time, more especially since Hindi has become the national language. What we have done is that we have tried to reorientate the approach of the journal and we have tried to make it a kind of organ for putting before the public in Hindi articles and facts about the cultural unity of our country.

* SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether, after taking all these steps which have been narrated by the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting, these journals are still running at a loss of Rs. 89,000 a year?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Sir, it is not running at a loss of Rs. 89,000. In 1956-57 the loss is only Rs. 48,000. It is given in the Statement. But in the Statement it is also given, Sir, that the sales circulation has increased from 78,000 to 89,000 and free distributions have also increased from 15,000 to 18,000. We are giving free distributions for the Community Project Centres and the National Extension Service Blocks. The circulation has increased by about 11,000 and odd from 1955-56 to 1956-57.

SHRI B. P. BASAPPA SHETTY: May I know, Sir, whether it is a Government organ or subsidised by the Government? If so, what is the amount of the subsidy?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Sir, it is directly printed and published by the Government.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know, Sir, whether some of the popular writers are making any contributions in the form of articles etc. to the magazine, and if so, what is the amount paid for such contributions?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Sir, we do take contributions from popular writers, but the payments vary from j writer to writer. It is not a uniform payment for all writers.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if photographs appear in the journal from time to time.

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Of course.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, why it is not being sold on Wheeler's stalls?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I require notice.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, a number of photographs of the Ministers have appeared in the journal.

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Sir, very rarely they appear.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is it not a fact, Sir, that . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I want some journalistic information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Mr. Malkani.

SETTING UP OF A NATIONAL HOUSING CORPORATION

*2. SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Housing Corporation;

(b) if so, what will be the functions of the Corporation; and

(c) what arrangements will be made for catering to the urgent needs

of flow income groups, both in urban and rural areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) Government have introduced for urban areas several Housing Schemes, viz., the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme, the Low Income Group Housing Scheme and the Slum Clearance Scheme. It has been found that separate housing schemes attempt only a piece-meal solution and will not attack the housing problem in a comprehensive way. The need was, therefore, felt for an integrated approach in dealing with our housing problems. The Planning Commission have also had under consideration this proposal. An Integrated Housing Scheme is now under consideration, the main features of which will be the setting up, in each State, of Housing Finance Corporations which will raise necessary finances and make them available to appropriate constructing agencies, cooperatives and individuals and thus canalise larger sums of money for housing than what has been possible to allocate under the second Five Year Plan. It is in this context that the setting up of a Central Housing Corporation may have to be considered, if necessary.

(b) and (c). Do not arise at this stage.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Would the body also undertake what is called 'urban planning' as well as 'regional planning' before it undertakes this work?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Sir, the whole scheme is under scrutiny and has not yet been finalised.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Corporation have also the power to determine the policy with regard to housing?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Sir, the policy is laid down under the various schemes by the Central Government.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that this Housing Corporation is intended to take up that prefabrication factory on which the Government had lost very heavily?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Sir, as my colleague has pointed out, the whole scheme is under consideration and we are considering whether such a Central Housing Corporation is to be set up or not. The Planning Commission has considered it and has come to some provisional conclusion, but it has got to be examined further and it is only after some final decision is taken that we will be able to say what will be the functions and the scope of the Central Housing Corporation, if and when it is decided finally to be brought into existence.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Sir, there is already in existence the National Building Organisation. What will be its relation to the Corporation?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The National Building Organisation is more or less a scientific body making researches into the various problems connected with the construction industry.

SHRI JASPAT ROY KAPOOR: May I know, Sir, the maximum income which is considered to be low income for the purpose of low income housing scheme?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The maximum is Rs. 6,000 a year, Sir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if the Government is aware of the fact that in the case of most of the States the allocations made for low income housing schemes had not been utilised by the Government, and if so, whether any enquiry had been made into it? I would also like to know, Sir, whether the present scheme under contemplation is based on any objective enquiry into

the failings of the Government to carry out its plans. Even the meagre sum allocated for this purpose has not been spent.

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: It is a fact, Sir, that in many of the States allocations of the money have not been fully utilised. We have been in correspondence with the State Government to know what are the difficulties which stand in their way. They had pointed out certain difficulties, some of which have already been remedied.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if it had been pointed out to the Government that in the case of the States certain vested interests plus the indifference on the part of the Ministers came in the way of the implementation of such schemes, and if so, whether the Government will hold an enquiry into this matter?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Mr. Amolakh Chand.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, what is the reply to my question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 'No answer to insinuations. Next question.

STATE TRADING CORPORATION (PRIVATE) LTD.

*3. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of business undertaken by the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd., in the year 1956-57 and so far in the year 1957-58; and

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred by it during the same period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDHA) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XVIII, Annexure No. 3].

(b) Not yet finally assessed.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether this Corporation works on a 'no profit no loss' basis or on a profit basis?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, the accounts of the Corporation are being finalised and I hope to place them on the Table of the House in due course.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Sir, I simply wanted to know whether the Corporation is being run on a 'no profit no loss' basis or on a profit basis.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, the exports and imports transactions of the Corporation are carried on with various countries and the prices differ considerably from country to country. It is therefore difficult to give any estimate till the accounts are finalised.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, if this Corporation has undertaken to promote the sales of small Industries Corporation—'Jan Sewak' shoes in foreign markets?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Yes, Sir. That is so.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, if the Corporation is charging commission on its export transactions, and if so, whether the commission rates have been fixed by the Corporation and whether the Corporation is free to fix the commission rates?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The Corporation is free to fix the commission rates. It tries to purchase and sell at the most reasonable rates, irrespective of the prices charged by other stock-holders in the country. It allows commission to other established traders through whom it functions.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the rates that the Corporation are charging are higher and whether the trade interests have made any representa-