

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

1375. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total units of the Unit Trust of India purchased by the public during the current year;

(b) the total amount of money invested in the Trust to-date; and

(c) the amount of money invested by the Trust, and in what form the money has been invested and on what conditions ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : (a) During the period January-June, 1968, the total sale of units, net of repurchases, amounted to Rs. 2.02 crores.

(b) At the end of June, 1968, the total investments in the units of the Unit Trust stood at Rs. 41.13 crores.

(c) At the end of March, 1968, the Unit Trust had invested a sum of Rs. 40.19 crores, mostly in manufacturing concerns which contribute to the development and growth of the country's economy. Investments are mostly made in ordinary and preference shares and debentures of companies and bonds of public corporations so as to obtain the maximum return consistent with the security of investment.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

1376. SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJA GOPALAN) : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what concrete ideas Government have placed before the Asian Development Bank to concentrate the utilisation of the Bank's Funds to the needs of the lesser developed countries of the region?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE, (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : In my statement at the First Annual Meeting of

the Asian Development Bank held in Manila in April, 1968 I had indicated our ideas regarding utilisation of the funds of the Bank. Relevant extracts from that statement are attached. [See below.]

Extracts from the statement made by Deputy Prime Minister, India's Governor on the Asian Development Bank, at the First Annual Meeting held in Manila in April, 1968.

"The countries in this region not only require additional capital to help them in their development but the capital should be available on reasonable terms. We are, however, passing through a period in which the flow of funds to developing countries in the region is static—or rather, declining; and conditions in the world money market have had the unfortunate result of pushing up the cost of borrowing money. Even so, we hope that, consistent with its obligations under the Charter, the Bank would be able to charge during the current difficult phase rates of interest which are not too onerous for its developing members. We recognise that the needs of the developing countries require assistance on more favourable terms both with regard to the rate of interest and the terms of repayment than the Bank can provide from its existing resources. . .

Mr. Chairman, the real purpose of making funds available for development activities through multilateral institutions is to bring to bear a multilateral judgment on the specific deployment of the funds and on the terms of such deployment. It is no doubt true that when potential donors make their funds available they have to bear in mind the economic circumstances in which they make their funds available; they may also have broad purposes which they seek to achieve through donations. Within the limits set by these, it is my hope that contributions made to the Bank will be in such manner as to promote the individuality of the Bank and the multilateral nature of the judgments it brings to bear in specific cases and to enable the Bank

to be responsive to the well recognised and urgent needs of its developing member countries of whatever part of the ECAFE region. . .

The Charter of the Bank places a duty on the ADB to pay special regard to the needs of the smaller countries in the region and I would like to assure my colleagues from the developing countries here that India will do everything in its power and give full support to the Bank in its efforts in this direction. Notwithstanding our own difficulties, India has not hesitated to play its small part in assisting its sister countries in this region. We have in the last few years made significant contributions towards the Colombo Plan and United Nations Development Programme. Though our contributions may not compare in size with the contributions made by some of the developed countries our efforts in this direction are an earnest of our desire to be as helpful as possible. In this spirit, my Government would be happy to cooperate with the Bank in any general framework it evolves for exchange of technical assistance and training services among its developing members.

In the final analysis, the developing countries in Asia and elsewhere must find in trade a substitute for aid. Often, aid becomes a handicap in the way of developing the competitive position of poorer countries—either because aid is tied and this puts developing countries at a disadvantage or because when aid is untied, rigid insistence on global tenders and the like fails to take account of the special needs of countries in the early stage of development. The international community has not so far addressed itself seriously to this vital aspect of the problem of development; and I hope the Asian Bank would pay special attention to this question of developing fully the export potential of developing countries. Unless this is done it will not be possible for developing countries to service more external capital which they badly need—for, in the ultimate analysis, debts can be paid only by the export of goods and services."

1377. [Transferred to the 26th August, 1968.]

मुंगेर के निकट विषाक्त भोजन से मौतें

1378. श्री राजनारायण : क्या स्वास्थ्य परिवार नियोजन और नगर विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल में बिहार में मुंगेर के निकट विषाक्त भोजन से लगभग 50 व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हो गई ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस घटना का विवरण क्या है ?

DEATH DUE TO FOOD POISONING NEAR MONGHYK

1378. SHRI RAJNARAIN : Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 50 persons died recently near Monghyr in Bihar on account of food poisoning; and

(b) if so, what are the details of this incident?]

स्वास्थ्य, परिवार नियोजन और नगर विकास मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री श्री एस० मूर्ति) :

(क) 1 अगस्त, 1968 की रात को मुंगेर अस्पताल से लगभग दो मील की दूरी पर स्थित सतूरखाना नामक ग्राम के एक व्यक्ति इकरा-मुलहक ने अपने पुत्र के खतना संस्कार के शुभा-वसर पर एक दावत दी जिसमें 110 व्यक्तियों ने, जिनमें अधिकांश बच्चे थे, पुलाव, गोमांस और तरकारियां खायीं और तुरन्त ही वे बेहोश होने लगे। उनको अस्पताल लाते लाते उनमें से 47 व्यक्ति जिनमें 41 बच्चे थे मर गये। अन्य सभी पीड़ित व्यक्तियों में जिनमें 58 बच्चे थे और जिन्हें अस्पताल में दाखिल किया गया था खाद्य-विषाक्तता के चिह्न पाये गये। यह शक किया जा रहा है कि दावत देने वाले व्यक्ति के