

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether the ban has been lifted,

(d) the number of new branches opened by the Bank during the last three years, year-wise, and

(e) the number of staff and officers recruited in the Bank during the above period, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) (a) to (c) The State Bank of India sponsor bank for Alaknanda Gramin Bank has reported that no ban had been imposed on recruitment of staff in this Gramin Bank

(d) It has been reported that no new branches were opened by this Bank during the last three years viz 1987, 1988 and 1989

(e) The Alaknanda Gramin Bank made the following recruitment during the last three years

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of person recruited</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
1987	32
1988	15
1989	18

Gold Reserves

9405 SHRI KALP NATH RAI
SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO
SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEO

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the estimated quantity of gold re-

serves in the Reserve Bank of India at present,

(b) whether this reserve has been on the increase or decrease during the last three years,

(c) the quantity of seized gold from the above quantity, and

(d) the method by which the seized gold is proposed to be disposed of?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) (a) The gold holdings of Reserve Bank of India as included in Foreign Exchange Reserve was 332,563 Kgs on 31 3 1990

(b) The gold reserve has increased from 324,989 Kgs on 31 3 88 to 332,563 Kgs on 31 3 1990

(c) Gold is generally purchased by Reserve Bank of India from the Mint in the form of standard gold bars, as such the Reserve Bank of India has no information on the quantity or value of the seized gold

(d) In view of (c) above the question of disposal of seized gold by Reserve Bank of India does not arise

Demand for Revision in Rate of Advertisement by DAVP

9406 SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian Language Newspapers Association and the INS has demanded the revision of increase in rate of advertisement by DAVP from 1 January, 1989 or 1 April, 1989,

(b) if so, the details of their demands,