

of bypasses, widening to 2/4 lanes, improved intersections etc.

- (ii) More stringent provisions in the Motor Vehicle Act regarding training and licensing of drivers, periodical checking of vehicles for road worthiness, improved standards of construction of vehicles especially with reference to safety aspects, measures to check overloading of trucks.
- (iii) Setting up of National and State level Road Safety Councils.
- (iv) Campaigns to promote better awareness of road safety among all sections of road users, including pedestrians have been organised.

(c) Main causes of road accidents on National Highways as well as other Highways are *inter alia* fault of drivers, mechanical defects of vehicles, fault of passengers, fault of pedestrians, bad weather, road deficiencies and other miscellaneous causes like unmanned railway crossings and mixed traffic conditions.

(d) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and schemes of improvement and removal of deficiencies are taken up depending on *inter se* priorities, availability of funds etc., in different Plan periods.

Financial Assistance to Tobacco Companies by Nationalised Banks

*546. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks are financing tobacco companies; and

(b) if so, the amount of assistance given to the tobacco companies during each of the last three years, bank-wise and company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount of outstanding advances by scheduled Commercial Banks for tobacco products as at the end of June 1988, 1989 and June 1990 (latest available) as reported by Reserve Bank of India is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)	
Year	Amount
June, 1988	302
June, 1989	355
June, 1990	373

As far as Bank-wise details are concerned, RBI has reported that the information is available for the banks financing tobacco companies enjoying aggregate credit limits of Rs. 5 crores and above. The sanctioned limits (Working Capital and Term Loan) and the total outstanding as on last Friday of December, 1988, 1989 and 1990 are given in the attached statement. So far as company-wise information is concerned, in accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers and the statutes governing the public sector banks, information relating to, or to the affairs of their constituents, is not divulged.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in crores)

Sr. No.	Banks	1988		1989		1990	
		Limits	Out-stand-ings	Limits	Out-stand-ings	Limits	Out-stand-ings
1.	Canara Bank	9.8	5.9	9.6	7.4	53.6	66.6
2.	Syndicate Bank	7.6	6.9	9.2	11.6	23.6	05.7
3.	Corporation Bank	1.0	0.7	3.8	2.7	10.3	02.6
4.	Indian Overseas Bank	28.2	17.6	32.9	18.1	17.1	05.4
5.	State Bank of India	39.5	25.5	34.9	22.3	30.7	27.2
6.	Allahabad Bank	1.0	0.8	1.5	1.2	2.5	2.5
7.	Vijaya Bank	4.7	3.0	4.5	3.6	10.3	8.4
8.	State Bank of Saurashtra	—	—	—	—	2.7	—
9.	Bank of Baroda	2.5	0.7	2.8	1.3	11.4	—
10.	Bank of India	2.0	—	4.7	0.2	3.5	—
11.	United Bank of India	1.0	0.2	1.0	—	1.5	1.7
12.	New Bank of India	—	—	5.4	5.4	5.4	4.8
13.	State Bank of Hyderabad	10.8	6.0	13.8	2.5	15.8	2.9
14.	UCO Bank	2.0	0.8	—	—	—	—
15.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	0.5	0.1	—	—	—	—
TOTAL :		110.6	68.2	124.1	76.3	188.4	127.8

Exports to Rupee Payment Area Countries

*547. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether exports to Rupee Payment Area countries are facing a crisis due to the withdrawal of Cash Compensatory Support after devaluation of the rupee;

(b) whether the long term bilateral trade agreement between India and U.S.S.R. will suffer due to devaluation of the rupee; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Some exporters to RPA countries have represented about difficulties faced subsequent to the withdrawal of Cash Compensatory Support. There is however no crisis in exports to Rupee Payment Countries.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.