

**Loans advanced by Nationalised Banks in Bihar**

1757. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced by the nationalised banks in Bihar at differential rates of interest; and

(b) the total number of loan applications pending disposal for more than three months, six months and one year, respectively, with the nationalised banks in Bihar and by each of their branches in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Sitamarhi, Saharsa and Begusarai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) The aggregate outstanding advances of public sector banks in Bihar under the differential rate of interest scheme as at the end of March 1976 stood at Rs. 96.55 lakhs.

(b) The present system of data reporting does not provide for collection of data regarding the number of applications pending with the public sector banks under the differential rate of interest scheme.

**Detection of Cyclonic Storms**

1758. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the cyclonic storm which lashed on the Western coast on 2nd June, 1976 could not be detected earlier, when India has got the latest equipment; and

(b) steps Government propose to take to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The cyclonic storm was detected from its early stage itself as a 'depression'—on 29th May, 1976. It was kept under constant surveillance using various techniques and equipments. Special weather warnings were issued from the afternoon of 31st May, 1976 through All India Radio.

**Contract with Foreign Countries for Supply of Wagons and Rolling Stock**

1759. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of existing contracts with other countries for supply of railway wagons and other rolling stock;

(b) whether agreements have also been signed to lay railway lines in other countries; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) The particulars of existing contracts with other countries for supply of railway wagons and other rolling stock have been indicated in the attached statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.