

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.

Statement

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Wagons on order	No. of Wagons already delivered	No. of Wagons to be delivered
1	Iran	492	306	186
2	Yugoslavia	1300	1245	55
3	Bangladesh	500	497	3
4	Zambia	30	..	30
5	Tanzania	30	..	30
6	Sri Lanka	30	..	30
7	Tanzania	17 coaches	Nil	17 coaches
		15 Diesel locomotives & spares.	6 Diesel Locomotives & spares.	9 Diesel Locomotives & spares.
		5 Steam locos & spares.	Nil	5 Steam locos & spares.

Proposal to fix Ceiling on Consumption of Petrol by Government Vehicles

1760. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Union Government to fix a ceiling on consumption of petrol by vehicles allotted to the various departments/offices as a measure of economy; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b): There is no proposal under consideration in regard to fixation of a ceiling on consumption of petrol by Government vehicles as necessary instructions have already been issued

in 1973 in this direction. The broad features of these instructions are as follows:—

(i) Apart from stricter enforcement of the provisions of the Staff Car Rules, Ministries were instructed to restrict the consumption of petrol in Staff Cars and other departmental vehicles, which are not used for operational purposes or for field duties to 75 per cent of the quantity consumed during 1972-73 in a full year. During 1973-74, however, the consumption was restricted to 85 per cent as the restriction was to apply only to a part of the year.

(ii) Consumption of petrol by staff cars on account of official journeys of each Minister and his personal staff will be treated as on official account upto a maximum of 900 litres per quarter and consumption in excess of this limit is required to be treated as for private purposes and has to be paid for by the Minister.