

S.No.	Name of the country	Yield of cocoon per hectare (kgs.)
1.	India	342
2.	China	625
3.	Japan	415
4.	Republic of Korea	389
5.	USSR	355

(c) Several steps are being taken for increasing the production of mulberry and cocoons per hectare on land. Some of the important steps are as under :

- (i) To extend irrigation facilities for cultivation of mulberry.
- (ii) to increase area under high yielding varieties of mulberry.
- (iii) to increase use of silkworm seed of improved quality.
- (iv) to strengthen and step up research and development activities for sericulture in the country.
- (v) to expand extension services for motivating and training farmers and reelers for use of improved varieties of mulberry, silkworm seeds and improved methods for silk reeling.

Request of Kerala Government for Special Assistance

782. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala have requested the Union Government to provide special assistance of at least Rs. 800 crores during the Seventh Five Year Plan to cover the revenue gap as Kerala did not get its due on account of an unfavourable Report of the Eighth Finance Commission ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Union Government's reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Government of Kerala had requested for special dispensation to meet their revenue deficit as assessed in the Planning Commission while working out the State's resources for the 7th Five Year Plan.

(b) The State Government had stated that the Finance Commission had accepted 1982-83 actuals as the base for its projections which was the year in which the State Government had taken special efforts to reduce the expenditure under non-Plan which had resulted in the Finance Commission declaring Kerala a revenue surplus State after devolution. Government of India have already informed the State Government that the resources assessment made by the Finance Commission and the Planning Commission are not comparable and cannot therefore become the basis for any special treatment.

[Translation]

Loan Advanced by Indian Bank Branch in Darbhanga District

783. SHRI RAM ASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan advanced during the last three years by the Indian Bank in Jale Block in Darbhanga District in Bihar for installing tube-wells for irrigation purposes ;

(b) whether interest is being charged after deducting the subsidy amount from the amount advanced; and

(c) the details of the interest charged from various categories of farmers on the loan so advanced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Data reporting system does not yield purpose-wise and bank-wise information for each block of the country in the manner desired.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Short-term loans for agriculture are provided by the banks at the following rates of interest :—

A. Upto Rs. 5,000/-	11.5%
B. Rs. 5,000/- to 10,000/-	12.5%
C. Rs. 10,000/-to 25,000/-	Not exceeding 14%
D. Above Rs. 25,000/-	Not exceeding 16.5%