

location of new branches of Bank of Baroda in Raigarh district, Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) There were 56 branches of Bank of Baroda functioning in Madhya Pradesh as at the end of March 1985.

(b) to (d) The question of opening more bank offices of Bank of Baroda in the State will be considered by Reserve Bank of India in the light of the branch licensing policy for the Seventh Five Year Plan period which is being finalised.

#### Procurement of raw cashew

687. SHRI M. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Central Government to promote/encourage the procurement of raw cashew and export of cashew nuts in Kerala ?

(b) whether any funds have been allotted during the year 1984-85 for the above purpose and the amount thereof ; and

(c) whether the above funds have been advanced by way of subsidy or whether the same is repayable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) The procurement of cashewnuts in Kerala is open to the trade. In addition, the Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation also procures cashew and the State Government has been fixing a floor price from time to time to ensure remunerative returns to cashew growers. However, at present the entire domestic crop is being absorbed by the trade and the domestic production has to be supplemented with imports of raw cashew. In order to promote the procurement of cashewnuts the import policy has been liberalised by the Central Government and imports are now under

OGL with the only stipulation being that imports be registered with the Cashew Corporation of India within seven days from the execution of the import contract.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Export of iron ore from Kudremukh to Czechoslovakia

689. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK :

SHRI R.M. BHOYE :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a long term arrangement with Czechoslovakia for the export of iron ore from 'Kudremukh' recently ; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the deal in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited have been exporting iron ore concentrate from Kudremukh to Czechoslovakia since 1982-83 on a year to year basis. The company have recently signed a contract with M/s. Kerametal Foreign Trade Company Limited, Czechoslovakia for the export of 125,000 tonnes of iron ore concentrate (additional 75,000 tonnes at the buyer's option) from Kudremukh to Czechoslovakia during 1985-86. Shipment against this contract has already started.

#### Export of cut and polished diamonds by M.M.T.C.

690. SHRI JUJHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has undertaken export of cut and polished diamonds and if so, the value of exports for the last two years and the salient features of the plan for the year 1985-86;

(b) the net profit made after taking into account all direct and indirect expenses; and

(c) how and by whom the foreign buyers have been selected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The value of export of cut and polished diamond in last two years by M.M.T.C. is as under :—

1983-84 : Rs. 4.14 Crores  
1984-85 : Rs. 14.75 Crores

For the year 1985-86, the Corporation plans to enlarge its supply base and the number of foreign buyers with a view to bring a additionality in the export turn-over in order to obtain the budgeted target of Rs. 250 crores.

(b) (i) Net profits exclusive of all direct expenses are as follows :

1983-84 : Rs 0 7 lakhs  
1984-85 : Rs. 4,3 lakhs

(ii) Corporation under its existing practice, does not charge indirect expenses to this commodity. Separate figures of profits net of both direct and indirect expenses are therefore, not computed.

(c) Selection of foreign buyers is made by M.M.T.C. in close consultation with its local associates after scrutiny of the buyer on the basis of their reputation in the market, financial standing, past performance with M.M.T.C. and in trade.

**Export of new items during 1985-86**

691. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) names of the major export items which fetched considerable amount of foreign exchange during the last three years, item-wise amount separately;

(b) what is the export target for 1985-86 and the items whose exports are

expected to be higher than the last year; and

(c) what are the new items to be exported in 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) A statement is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—1239/85]

(b) Export target for the year 1985-86 is fixed at Rs. 11739 crores. The Target for non-oil exports for the year 1985-86 is fixed at Rs. 11266 crores. The commodity groups whose exports are expected to be higher during 1985-86 as compared to 1984-85 are : Coffee, Cereals, Tobacco unmanufactured, Spices, Cashew Kernels, Oilmeasl, Shellac, processed foods, Marine Products, Iron Ore, Manganese Ore, Leather and Leather goods, Sports goods, Gems and Jewellery, Chemicals, and allied Products, Engineering goods, Textiles including Coir and Jute Manufactures, Handicrafts including woollen manufactures and Cotton raw.

(c) India's export basket is sufficiently diversified. The new products continuously emerge from within these broad commodity groups.

**Evasion of excise duty by M/s Indian Tobacco Company**

692. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that M/s Indian Tobacco Company Ltd. is evading excise duty through the help of its dealers and agents; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to raid all the premises of Indian Tobacco Company Ltd. dealers and its godowns to detect the evasion, if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No