

Amount earmarked for providing financial Assistance to SC/ST in Bihar

701. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked for giving financial assistance to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes in Bihar under the Consumer Loan Scheme during the last two years, year-wise ; and

(b) the amount proposed to be provided to Bihar in 1985-86 for that purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee on Consumption Credit, commercial banks and co-operatives were advised by Reserve Bank of India to grant consumption loans for certain specified purposes to the weaker sections of the community including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The purpose-wise ceiling for such loans ranges between Rs. 75 to Rs. 250 with an aggregate ceiling of Rs. 500/- per family per year.

The present data reporting system from banks does not generate the information in the manner asked for. Besides, no specific targets have been prescribed for banks for advances under the consumption loans.

Committee to review structure of export-import policies

702. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee set up to review the structure of export-import

policies and to examine the effectiveness of export promotion has submitted its report ; if so, when and the details of the report ;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay in submitting the report ; and

(c) what are the terms of reference and composition of the above mentioned Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE - IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The Committee on Trade Policies set up to review the structure of export and import policies and to examine the effectiveness of export promotion measures submitted its report to Government on 31st December, 1984. It is expected that copies of the Report will be placed in the Parliament library during the current session.

(c) The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows :—

(i) To review the present structure of export and import policies ;

(ii) to examine the effectiveness of export promotion measures in terms of their impact on actual export performance ;

(iii) to suggest rationalisation and improvements, wherever necessary, in export policies ; and

(iv) to suggest appropriate changes and rationalisation of import policies for the conservation of foreign exchange and the promotion of efficient import substitution.