

made by the people and it has been pointed out in the audit report that Bank Manager had committed irregularities ;

(b) whether the Collector of Gopalganj has received complaints from many poor people and Scheduled Castes that officers have been taking loan in their names by having their signatures forcibly on black papers by intimidating them and the collector had, after conducting an inquiry into the matter, suspended him (the Bank Manager);

(c) whether Government have taken or propose to take any concrete action against that Bank Manager in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) to (d). The Central Bank of India, which is the sponsor bank of the Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank, has reported that a special audit of the Bathanakutti branch was conducted which revealed a number of irregularities committed by the Branch Manager, who has been suspended and the case has been handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation at Patna. It has also informed that a complain<sup>t</sup> from some Harijans was received by the Collector, Gopalganj which has been passed on by him to District Police for investigation. Further action as per rules of the Regional Rural Bank can be initiated against the erring officials on receipt of the investigation reports from the Central Bureau of Investigation and the District Police.

[English]

**Institute for Training Cardamom Growers**

3823. **SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps the Cardamom Board has taken to increase production of Cardamom in Sikkim which produces seventy per cent of this commodity in the country;

(b) whether there is any institute in Sikkim to impart training to growers on

modern methods of picking drying and packing ; and

(c) if not, whether the Board propose to set up one, such institute in Sikkim ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) :** (a) Cardamom Board through its various offices located in Gangtok, Tadong, Kabi, Jorethong, Gyalzing and Mangan is implementing a number of schemes for achieving increase in the production of cardamom in Sikkim. These include extension advisory service, maintenance of departmental and certified nurseries, demonstration plots, besides providing subsidy for construction of curing houses.

(b) and (c). There is no training institute as such for large cardamom. However the Research and Development Centre Pangtheng near Gangtok is made use of for imparting practical training on modern methods of cultivation, processing and departmental curing houses.

**Unsold Stock of Handloom in Tamil Nadu**

3824. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large stocks of handloom cloth are lying unsold at Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Tamil Nadu Government has given large rebate to these products ; and

(c) whether the protection given to the handloom industry has become a permanent feature ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) :** (a) Holding of stocks of handloom fabrics is necessary to cope with the heavy demand during festival season when most of the purchases are made by consumers. However, after the Deepavali festival sales in 1985, stocks of handloom cloth in Tamil Nadu have come down considerably.

(b) To dispose of stocks of handloom fabrics with the cooperative in all states including Tamil Nadu, Govt. of India have