

(c) The Seventh Plan was finalised in consultation with the State Governments.

**Cases of corruption against Managers and Branch Managers of Regional Rural and other Commercial Banks in Madhya Pradesh**

4903. SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are certain cases of corruption against the Managers and Branch Managers of the regional rural and other commercial banks in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action being taken against the Managers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Complaints levying corruption charges against bank officials in Madhya Pradesh and other parts of the country are received from time to time. Reserve Bank of India have reported that State-wise/areawise statistics in regard to corruption cases are not maintained by them. Whenever specific instances of the Regional Rural Bank and other banks staff indulging in corrupt practices come or are brought to the notice of Government, Reserve Bank of India and/or National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, there are promptly looked into for remedial action on the procedural side and punitive action whenever found necessary is taken against the guilty staff.

[English]

News item captioned "Foreign Exchange Racket Detected".

4904. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Croron Rupey Ka Videshi Mudra Ghotala' (Foreign

Exchange racket to the tune of crores of rupees) appearing in the 'Tribune' of 6 November, 1985 ;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the cases of bungling by the travel agents under Foreign Travel Scheme ;

(c) if so, the names of agents/organisations against whom action has been taken and the amount involved in the bungling detected so far ; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to deal with such frauds in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Investigations by the Enforcement Directorate (FERA), in the case referred to in the news-item, are in progress. The allegations in the case are that some persons have obtained foreign exchange totalling U.S. \$2,74,000 from various banks under the Foreign Travel Scheme on the basis of forged documents.

In this connection, five persons, namely, S/Shri Kundan Singh, Charanjit Singh, Prem Chand, Tarsem Singh and Saroop Singh have already been detained under COFEPOSA Act, 1974.

Further action as warranted by law against the persons found involved and remedial measures as may be found necessary will be taken on completion of the investigations.

**Transfer Policy in 'NABARD'**

4905. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down in respect of transfer of officers in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development ;

(b) whether this policy is followed in respect of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe officers ; and

(c) if so, why 7 officers, belonging to SC/ST communities out of total 10 officers, have been posted at Singapur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has laid down definite criteria regulating transfer of its officers which, inter-alia, take in to account the length of stay of the officer at a particular centre, number of vacancies at various centres etc. This criteria is followed in respect of all officers including officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) NABARD has reported that it does not have any office at Singapur.

#### **Disappearance of Ship carrying Palm Oil**

4906. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Panama registered ship carrying palm oil fatty acid distillate for the State Trading Corporation of India has mysteriously disappeared en route from Malaysia to India ;

(b) if so, the facts thereof ; and

(c) whether the State Trading Corporation has incurred any loss as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During July 1985 a ship named "Tropical Queen" flying flag of Panama, Carrying, inter-alia, palm fatty acid distillate, did not arrive at the designated Indian Port consequent to its reported deviation from the designated route. This vessel was engaged by three of the suppliers in Malaysia against import contracts entered into by STC for palm fatty acid distillate on 22.5.1985.

(c) No, Sir.

#### **Impact of New Textile Policy on cotton Growers.**

4907. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of cotton in the country during the current year ;

(b) how many cotton bales have been used for production in textiles in the current year ;

(c) what will be impact on the cotton growers in view of the new textile policy with reduction in excise duty on man-made and synthetic fibres ; and

(d) whether Government propose to build buffer stocks of cotton or increase the exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The production of cotton in the country during the current cotton season has been estimated at about 94 lakh bales as per the latest assessment.

(b) The consumption of cotton by textile mills during the first two months of the current cotton year viz. September and October, 1985 is estimated to be around 15 lakh bales.

(c) The new Textile Policy envisages that the pre-eminent role of cotton as raw material of the textile industry would be maintained. The reduction in excise duty on man-made and synthetic fibres is not likely to affect the cotton growers.

(d) The cotton situation in the country is reviewed from time to time. The quantities/varieties of cotton considered surplus to our domestic requirements are released for export.

#### **Failure of STC to Import Newsprint for Newspapers**

4908. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :