

(b) whether any tender system is being adopted in regard to awarding of contract for import of edible oil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI) : (a) The value of edible oils imported from 1.1.1986 to 30.9.1986 is approximately Rs. 384 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Opening of branches of Union Bank of India in Orissa

4033. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches opened by the Union Bank of India in Orissa so far ;

(b) the location of these branches (district-wise) ;

(c) whether some branches are proposed to be opened in Keonjhar district, Orissa ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Union Bank of India as at the end of June 1986 had 25 branches in Orissa. The district-wise details are indicated in the statement given below.

(c) and (d) Under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 co-terminus with the Seventh Five Year Plan period, no target as such in respect of number of branches to be opened has been set. It would not therefore be possible to indicate the number of bank branches that may be opened in Keonjhar District of Orissa during the Plan period. The main objective of the current branch licensing policy is to achieve one branch office for a population of 17,000 in the rural and semi-urban areas of each Development Block and to eliminate large spatial gaps so as to ensure that the distance of a bank office from any village does not ordinarily exceed 10 Kms. RBI has advised

the State Governments/Lead Banks to identify centres for opening new bank branches on the basis of the norms laid down in the Policy and to forward the same to RBI. The State Government of Orissa has identified centres for opening branches in the State and has forwarded the same to RBI. The exercise regarding allotment of centres in the District of Keonjhar has not yet been completed.

Statement

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Name of centre</i>
Puri	Puri Bhubaneshwar Chandrasekharpur
Ganjam	Berhampur Parlakhemidi
Koraput	Jeypore Tamassa
Cuttack	Cuttack (Chowdhury Bazar) Cuttack (College Square) Jajpur Town Kendrapara Balamukuli Utanagara
Balasore	Bhadrak
Keonjhar	Keshadurapal Panchugochhia
Dhenkanal	Angul Sogar
Sundergarh	Ambagaon Rourkela
Sambalpur	Bargarh Brajarajnagar Jharsuguda Reamal Sambalpur

Import of edible oil

4034. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to reduce the import of edible oil during 1986-87 ;

(b) if so, the value of edible oil imported in 1985-86 and likely to be imported during 1986-87, year-wise ; and

(c) the amount expected to be saved by reducing the import of edible oil in 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI) : (a) Imports of edible oils are arranged by the Government, keeping in view the requirements, indigenous production, availability of foreign exchange and other related factors.

(b) The value of edible oils imported during the financial year 1985-86 was Rs. 769 crores. The import plan for edible oils for the year 1986-87 is yet to be finalised.

(c) It is not possible to assess the savings as the import plan for 1986-87 has not so far been finalised.

Scheme to make available high quality of textile material at a cheaper rate

4035. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Textile Corporation has any scheme to make available to the people high quality textile material at a cheaper rate ;

(b) if so, details thereof with comparative rates ;

(c) whether the Corporation is running into loss ; and

(d) if so, reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Government have approved a scheme for production of low priced polyester blended fabrics, with duty exempt fibre, through National Textile Corporation.

The retail prices fixed for blended shirting range from Rs. 15.90 to 18.50 per metre. As against this, the prices of comparable varieties in the market are reported to range between Rs. 20 to Rs. 30/- per metre. The retail prices fixed for blended suiting ranges from Rs. 38.00 to Rs. 42.90 per metre. As against this, the prices of comparable varieties in the market are reported to be Rs. 48.50 per metre and upwards.

(c) and (d) During the year 1985-86, the nationalised mills under NTC have incurred net losses amounting to Rs. 117.09 crores. The major reasons for losses of the mills under NTC are as follows :—

- (i) old and obsolete machinery in most of the mills ;
- (ii) increase in the prices of cotton and other inputs ;
- (iii) power-cut and high cost of captive power, resulting in under-utilisation of installed capacity in various mills ;
- (iv) increase in cost of coal, fuel, petroleum products etc ;
- (v) increase in cost of dyes and chemicals ;
- (vi) wage increase on account of increased DA etc ; and
- (vii) excess labour force.

Rehabilitation of textile workers in Gujarat

4036. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile workers in Gujarat who still remain unemployed even after certain Textile Units have been taken over by Government ;

(b) steps proposed to rehabilitate these textile workers ; and

(c) whether Government propose to help the textile workers through a scheme on