

As regards commercial banks, it has been reported by the Reserve Bank of India that prior to September 22, 1990, the structure of lending rates of scheduled commercial banks was characterised by an excessive proliferation of rates. There were not only a number of rate prescriptions for each activity but also different categories of borrowers were charged vastly different rates for the same loan amount. RBI, therefore, rationalised the prevailing lending rate structure of the scheduled commercial banks and, effective September 22, 1990, the interest rate structure for advances of scheduled commercial banks was fixed in relation to the size of the loan. This rationalisation of interest rate structure was also done by RBI much before the submission of the Report by the Narasimham Committee. Although there have subsequently been some changes in the rate of interest, the basic structure remains the same.

[English]

**Cost Study of Paraxylene, DMT, PTA, PSF and PFY**

4835. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:  
SHRI CHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has been asked to undertake a fresh cost study of paraxylene, DMT, PTA, PSF and PFY;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the BICP is likely to submit its report?

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

(b) The BICP has taken up the study in July 1992 in pursuance of a decision taken by a Committee of Secretaries. It will be a comprehensive study of paraxylene, DMT, PTA, PSF and PFY in order to work out the normative cost of production of these products for determining optimal tariff levels.

(c) The time taken for the completion of the study will, to a large extent, depend on the timely response of the manufactures to furnish replies to the BICP's questionnaire.

**Financial Assistance to Educational Institutions**

4837. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Bank and Indian Overseas Bank have sanctioned huge financial assistance for the self-financing educational institutions floated by private trusts in Tamil Nadu, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount repaid by these institutions and the amount balanced on them as on May 31, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The details of financial assistance sanctioned by Indian Bank for the Self Financing Educational Institutions floated by private trusts in Tamil Nadu during the last three years are as under:

<i>(Amount Rs. in lakhs)</i>				
<i>Year</i>	<i>Limits sanctioned</i>	<i>Balance as on 31.5.92</i>	<i>Amount repaid as on 31.5.92</i>	
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	
1989-90	789.64	907.45	192.48	
1990-91	623.57	520.23	144.67	
1991-92	372.59	376.26	16.95	

Similar information in respect of the Indian Overseas Bank is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Taken-Over of Sericulture Research Centre, by CSB in Assam**

4838. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Silk Board (CSB) had taken over the Sericultural Research Station at Titabor from the Government of Assam in 1972 and set up a Central Muga and Eri Research Station to provide Research and Development support to sericulture in Assam and the entire North-Eastern region;

(b) the progress made by these Research Stations so far with special reference to the Regional Muga Research Station at Boko, Regional Sericulture Research Station at Titabaor and Central Eri Research and Training Institute at Mandopathar (Meghalaya);

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment of the performances of the Central Muga and Eri Research Stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating the progress made by Regional Muga Research Station at Boko, Regional Sericulture Research Station at Titabar and central Eri Research & Training Institute, Mendipathar is attached.

(c) and (d) The performance of various units of the CSB including Central Eri

Research & Trg. Institute is assessed periodically. The achievements of Central Eri Research & Training Institute are indicated in the attached statement in reply to part (b) above. The Central Silk Board has a proposal to establish a Central Muga Research & Training Institute in Assam.

**STATEMENT**

*The Progress Made/Achieved by the Regional Muga Research Station, Boko RSRS,, Titabar/Jorhat and Central Eri Research and Training Institute*

**I. REGIONAL MUGA RESEARCH STATION, BOKO**

- (1) The Station has developed and standardised suitable agronomical practices for propagation of som and soalu muga food plants.
- (2) Proper incubation techniques of muga silk worm seed have been evolved which ensure uniform and high hatching percentage of muga seed.
- (3) The Station has evolved a method of indoor rearing of muga silkworm upto second stage which has resulted in reduced mortality and higher cocoon production.
- (4) The techniques of preserving muga cocoons at high altitudes upto 2 months has been standardised, which helps in seed preparation activity.
- (5) Improvements in various grainage operations were achieved and recommended for filled adoption.
- (6) The Station has fabricated an improved muga reeling machine for higher production of muga silk