

within its officers cadre.

Following the Department of Personnel and Training instructions dated 1st Nov, 1990 to the effect that there is no reservation in promotions based on selected method within Group A posts, Syndicate Bank discontinued reservations in promotions with its officers cadre. A contempt petition filed by Syndicate Bank SC/ST Employees Association before the Supreme Court against the Officers of the bank and others was dismissed by the latter on 19th July, 1993.

Workers of Tea Industry

2745. DR. JAYANTA RONGOPI Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers employed in the tea industries throughout the country, State-wise,

(b) the details of the demands made by the tea workers in Assam awaiting clearance, and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA). (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Small Industries Development Bank of India

2746. SHRI RAJ NARAIN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the names of the countries from which Small Industries Development Bank of India has taken loan during the last two years, year-wise and the details of amount taken from each country alongwith interest to be paid;

(b) the steps taken to ensure that this amount be utilised in long-term loans being advanced to small scale entrepreneurs by Small Industries Development Bank,

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed to streamline the procedure of advancing loan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any special programmes have been prepared for female entrepreneurs so as to encourage them to set up industries on priority basis as well as giving them concession in interest rates; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) the details of assistance availed of by Small Industries

Development Bank of India (SIDBI) from other countries during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as under.

Name of Country	Amount of loan	Year	Interest (% p.a.)
Japan	JY 20 billion	1992-93	8%
Japan	JY 30 billion	1993-94	8%
Germany	DM 35 million	1993-94	13.5%

(b) to (d). The major activity of SIDBI is refinancing of loans to the primary lenders who have assisted the small scale entrepreneurs. The loans granted by the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF), Japan are disbursed by way of reimbursement only after SIDBI has provided finance to primary lenders ensuring the end-use before disbursement. Loans granted by KfW, Germany are channelised through direct schemes of assistance granted by SIDBI to small scale units. KfW, disburses the loan to SIDBI after necessary disbursements are effected by the latter, thus ensuring end-use of funds before disbursements.

(e) and (f) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been operating Mahila Udyam Nidhi (MUN) Scheme to provide equity type of assistance of women entrepreneurs for setting up new industrial projects in the Small Scale Industrial (SSI) sector. All new industrial projects in the SSI sector as also service activities which are eligible for finance as per SSI norms and set up by women entrepreneurs are eligible for assistance under the scheme provided the project cost does not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs. Assistance under the scheme is in the form of soft loan to meet the gap in the equity after taking into account the promoters' contribution to the project subject to a maximum of 15% of the project cost. No interest is levied on the soft loan but a nominal service charge of 1% per annum is payable annually. The repayment of assistance under MUN is required to be made in 10 years including a moratorium upto five years.

SIDBI has also been operating a scheme for voluntary agencies under 'Mahila Vikas Nidhi' (MVN) for creation of self employment and wage and employment opportunities in the industrial sphere. The assistance under this scheme is provided in the form of either grant or loan. SIDBI also provides assistance under a special scheme viz. Women Entrepreneurs Scheme (WES) under which financial assistance on liberal terms for setting up of industrial units in the SSI sector is given.

Long term loans

2747. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government of India have any proposal to provide financial assistance to 16 week Central Cooperative Banks, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring