

is confined to urban and semi-urban areas. For distribution of consumer articles in rural and remote areas, there is a separate scheme to assist primary agricultural credit cooperatives to open retail outlets.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Development of Certain Airports

1465. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the development of certain airports has been lagging behind resulting in cost escalation; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) and (b). The progress of execution of Plan projects during the year 1979-80 has somewhat been slow due to various causes like non-availability of rail wagons, diesel for transportation of materials to the worksite, short supply of cement, steel and bitumen and also completion of codal formalities in awarding certain works. As far as the development of communication, radio navigation, visual aids and safety services equipment are concerned, the main reason for slow progress is the time taken in observing the purchase procedures which require consultation with various agencies of the Government before the stores could be procured. In the case of purchase of stores from indigenous sources like Public Sector Undertakings, sometime taken in the development of equipment and delivery of the required number. Due to continuously rising prices these factors sometimes result in the overall increase in the cost.

Periodical meetings senior levels are held with the CPWD review the progress of works at aerodromes and to take steps to remove bottlenecks.

Similar periodical meetings are also held with procuring agencies and the Public Sector Undertakings concerned with a view to hastening the procurement of stores.

Ratio of Deposit and Credit of Banks in States

1466. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of deposit and credit of banks in different States for the year 1978-79 and 1979-80;

(b) whether there are any guidelines for the nationalised banks in this respect;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the guidelines have since been strictly adhered to; and

(e) if no, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) Available Statewise data regarding deposits and advances and credit, deposit ratios of scheduled commercial banks as at the end of December 1977 and December 1978 are set out in the statement.

(b) to (e). The volume of bank credit and its regional distribution is dependent on various factors, including the adequacy of arrangements for formulation of viable schemes of development in agriculture, small scale industry and other sectors, the level of activity in the organised sectors of medium and large industry and trade, and the availability of infrastructural facilities such as power, transport communication, irrigation etc. In pursuance of the national policy to secure balanced economic development, the public sector banks endeavour to bring about a balanced deployment of their resources through larger investment in the Securities of the State Governments and their associate bodies and greater attention to priority sector lending in relatively less developed regions.