

Rules and procedure for selection of officers for training and posting in foreign countries

2253. PROF. P. J. KURIEN:
SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has any rules and procedures for selection of officers for training and posting in its offices in foreign countries; if not the reasons therefor;

(b) how many officers the Bank has abroad and whether some officers sent abroad are not qualified for the job they are doing;

(c) is it a fact that a senior officer has been in Paris for several months while the French Government has not allowed the bank to open an office there all this while; and

(d) is it a fact that an officer has gone abroad for training more than once in a year while other officers with requisite experience have not been considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA):

(a) The State Bank has reported that it has rules and well defined procedures for selection of its officers for training and posting in their offices abroad. The Committee consisting of Managing Director and two Dy. Managing Directors holds interviews and selections under its "Trainee Officials Scheme" and similarly for the postings abroad out of the panel of eligible officials fulfilling specific criteria maintained at their Central Office.

(b) State Bank has at present 99 officers abroad including 30 deputed under the "Trainee Officials Scheme". They are qualified for the job they are doing.

(c) The State Bank deputed the Manager-designate to Paris on transfer in May, 1979 for completing the preliminary licensing and other formalities which normally takes about

six to eight months. Because of some unexpected delay in the grant of the requisite licence the Bank is arranging to utilise his services also for other assignments in Europe like correspondent relations and survey work for its other overseas expansion projects.

(d) No officer is reported to have been deputed by the Bank for training abroad more than once in a year.

Unemployment in cashew workers in Kerala for lack of raw nuts

2254. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that nearly two lakhs of cashew workers in Kerala are unemployed for nearly ten months in an year for lack of raw nuts;

(b) the steps which Government propose to take to give more employment to these workers; and

(c) whether Government intend to import more raw nuts in order to provide more employment to these workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Government are aware of the difficulties being caused to the Cashew Workers due to inadequate availability of raw cashewnuts. However, the number of persons rendered unemployed and the duration of unemployment are not known.

(b) Government have already liberalised scheme of import under which actual users are allowed to import raw cashewnuts directly from the non-traditional sources. Government are also considering grant of financial assistance to some State Governments for export oriented viable schemes of cashew cultivation for increasing indigenous production of cashewnuts.

(c) Government are taking all steps to import as large a quantity of raw cashewnuts as possible.