

(b) the number of branches which were proposed to be opened and how many of them have become operational during the above period; and

(c) the time by which the remaining branches of the banks are likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have issued 12 authorisations during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 to nationalised banks for opening branches in Assam. Of these, eight branches have since been opened. While authorising opening of branches RBI have advised banks to obtain necessary licences after completion of infrastructural facilities and banks are expected to open the branch within the validity period of the licence which is one year from the date of issue of licence.

#### Trade with Pakistan

2656. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :  
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to allow trade with Pakistan at Wagah border;

(b) if so, whether security agencies have expressed their concern in this behalf; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). Requests received from Indian trade and industry for opening up of Wagah border for overland trade with Pakistan are being looked into, in consultation with all concerned Government agencies.

#### Export of Marine Products

2657. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of marine products exported during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the top five States contributing to the country's marine exports; and

(c) the details of countries which are the main importers of India's marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The quantity and value of marine products exported during

each of the last three years has been as follows :-

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1995-96	296277	3501.11
1994-95	307337	3573.27
1993-94	243960	2503.62

(Source : MPEDA)

(b) The following are the top five states alongwith the contribution of each in terms of quantity exported and value realised from the exports of marine products :-

	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1. Kerala	78896	856.90
2. Tamil Nadu	31330	719.19
3. Andhra Pradesh	20017	600.88
4. Maharashtra	55357	484.36
5. Gujarat	82558	395.28

(Source : MPEDA)

(c) Following are the countries/markets which are the main importers of marine products from India alongwith the quantity and value of imports during the period 1993-94 to 1995-96 :-

Q : Quantity in MT

V : Value in Rs. Crores

Country/Market	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Japan	Q: 44985 V: 1185.67	53500 1643.82	51789 1576.69
European Union	Q: 71850 V: 648.21	71224 726.30	87211 911.87
USA	Q: 26152 V: 306.17	32102 490.23	26008 366.26
South East Asia	Q: 87099 V: 288.40	135567 602.32	112482 501.03

(Source: MPEDA)

#### NEDB

2658. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the North Eastern Development Bank has commenced functioning;

(b) if so, the role and objectives of the Bank;

(c) the manner in which its role would be different from the roles of IDBI, SIDBI, ICICI etc;

(d) the quantum of funds made available to the Bank by way of paid up capital and loans so far; and

(e) the achievement and activities undertaken by the Bank till date?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The organisation is named as North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFI).

(b) The role and objective of NEDFI is to carry on the business of providing credit and other facilities for promotion, expansion and modernisation of industrial enterprises and infrastructure projects in the North Eastern Region of the country.

(c) The operations of NEDFI are focused exclusively on the North Eastern Region and cover the entire spectrum of industry i.e. small, medium and large scale industries.

(d) The authorised capital of NEDFI is Rs.500 crores. Its paid up capital at present is Rs.90 crores.

(e) NEDFI has reported that during March - July, 1996 it has conducted eight seminars/workshops for entrepreneurs in all the seven States of the North Eastern Region. A list of 62 items identified by the consultants as feasible in the North Eastern Region prepared pre-investment studies on most of the identified items and offered them to eligible entrepreneurs to help them take investment decisions. As a result of the promotional efforts of NEDFI, it has received about 30 enquiries involving investment of about Rs.70 crores. NEDFI has sanctioned direct assistance of Rs.12 crores oil sector, and catalysed an investment of Rs.30 crores. NEDFI also helped in marketing an initial public issue offer of equity capital of around Rs.200 crores for a local company.

#### Drinking Water in Coalmines

2659. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Limited have made arrangements for the supply of potable water in its coalmines and quarters of the workers;

(b) if so, names of the coalmines and workers quarters to whom this facility is likely to be extended; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ECL have made arrangement for supply of potable water to 43049 Standard Quarters. The rest are being supplied potable water through Community Taps/ Hand Pumps/Tubewells/Dugwells etc. The present percentage of satisfaction is 91.03%.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Japanese Investment in Joint Ventures

2660. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the industries in the country wherein investment has been made by Japan during each of the last three years;

(b) whether Japan has also set up some joint ventures during the above period;

(c) if so, the details of such joint ventures set up in India during the above period;

(d) the amount of capital invested by Japan in these joint ventures separately;

(e) whether Japan proposes to make investments in some more joint ventures in India during the current financial year also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). Proposals of foreign direct investment approved during each of the last three years with Japanese firms are as under :

Year	FDI Proposals approved	Amount of FDI
1993	26	257.43
1994	45	400.90
1995	40	1414.26

The details of such proposals viz. name of the Indian company, name and country of foreign collaborator, equity investment involved, item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly Newsletter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

(e) and (f). The approvals to joint venture proposals are accorded on receipt of application from the entrepreneurs. Each proposals is considered on its merits and as per prescribed guidelines in this regard.

[English]

#### Banking Support for Tea Gardens of West Bengal

2661. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Tea Gardens of West Bengal are suffering for lack of Banking support in so far as their expansion and modernisation plan is concerned; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?