

for examination and clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in granting the clearance; and

(c) when the clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c). Environmental clearance to Narmada Sagar and Sardar Sarovar Projects was accorded in June, 1987. Environmental Action Plans are, however, being detailed by the participating states individually under the overall guidance of the Narmada Control Authority.

Export Target

2. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports target for 1990-91 is likely to be achieved;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures the Government propose to take to achieve the target?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). It is expected that there may be a shortfall in the achievement of export target of Rs. 36,000 crores set for the financial year 1990-91. The main reasons for shortfall in the export target, inter alia, include slow down in world economy, recession in developing countries particularly USA, out break of Gulf crisis, etc.

(c) Government has set up an Empowered Committee of Secretaries on Balance of Payments to monitor the Performance

on export front and to explore possibilities of providing additional exports with a small subsidy element, mainly in the form of CCS. Intensive discussions are taking place with exporters in all the major sectors to explore possibilities of creating additional exports. Special efforts have been initiated to bolster agricultural exports by removing administrative bottle-necks, to identify additional exports of manufactures to take advantage of increases in domestic production and to find alternative markets to those affected by Gulf crisis, etc.

Scrapping of Priority Sector Lending Programme of Banks

3. D R.A.K. PATEL:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the effect on the health of the public sector banks due to their priority sector lending programmes;

(b) whether the World Bank has suggested scrapping of the priority sector lending programmes of public sector banks in order to improve their viability;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in consultation with Government had appointed, in August, 1986, the Agricultural Credit Review Committee (ACRC) under the Chairmanship of Prof. A.M. Khusro to carry out an in-depth review of the agricultural credit