

[*Translation*]

**Outstanding Loans of Nationalised Banks**

2900. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of various kinds of outstanding loans of nationalised banks which is not recoverable; and

(b) the year for which these amounts have been outstanding ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to the forms of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account prescribed in the Third Schedule of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, banks are given statutory protection from disclosing the particulars and quantum of bad and doubtful debts for which provision is made to the satisfaction of auditors. The required information, therefore cannot be made available.

[*English*]

**Fall in Price of Cotton**

2901. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fall in price of cotton has assumed an alarming proportion;

(b) whether this fall in price of cotton has compelled the farmers to resort to distress sales below the support price level; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to stop distress sale of cotton by farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Though prices of cotton declined during the current cotton season compared to the corresponding period of the last season, they are generally above the support price fixed by Government of India, which are considered to be remunerative to the farmers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As the price supporting agency, the Cotton Corporation of India is purchasing Kapas arriving in the market and have covered a sizeable quantity at and above support prices. Government of India have released 1.95 lakh bales of long and extra-long staple cotton for export so far. Prices of almost all varieties of cotton have since gone up and there is hence no likelihood of distress sale by farmers.

**Adjudication proceedings against ITC pending for Finalisation**

2902. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of adjudication proceedings pending for finalisation as on 1st March, 1985 against the Indian Tobacco Company;

(b) the amount of revenue arrears involved in these proceedings, with case-wise split up of revenue;

(c) whether any specific time limit has been fixed by which these cases would be disposed of; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to ensure the early and expeditious finalisation of the cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (d). So far as Central Excise cases are concerned, 33 showcause notices are pending adjudication as on 1-2-85 against M/s. India Tobacco Company Ltd. It is not possible to quantify the exact amounts involved in these notices as some of them have been issued without indicating the excise duty involved and relate to issues having bearing on rate of duty and valuation. Quantification of revenue amounts is possible only when the cases are adjudicated. It is difficult to specify time limit for disposal of these cases because of the High Courts : stay orders. Efforts are made to move various courts for early vacation of stays, engaging eminent lawyers to defend Government interest in important cases, etc.

Information relating to Income-tax and Customs Duty is not readily available.