

(b) Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are the three States producing small cardamom. Large Cardamom is being grown in Sikkim and some parts of the West Bengal. Cardamom is purchased and exported mainly by private exporters located in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra. However, Kerala State Cooperative Marketing Federation had purchased and exported 10 M.T. in 1982-83, 10 M.T. in 1983-84 and 46 M.T. in 1984-85 (April-Feb. 85). The said Federation had also purchased and supplied 88 M.T. of Cardamom to STC in 1983-84 which was exported by that Corporation in 1984-85. Besides, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation had purchased and exported 20 tonnes of Cardamom in 1983-84 and 30 tonnes in 1984-85 (April-Feb. 1985).

(c) The Cardamom Board is implementing schemes like rehabilitation of drought affected plantations, replanting of old and uneconomic plantations, production of quality seedlings in departmental nurseries, improvement of irrigation facilities etc. to increase the production of Cardamom in the country.

Assistance by Banks for Setting up Business in Rural Areas

220 SHRI C. D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the banks which are giving financial assistance to the people living in rural areas for setting up business industry :

(b) the details regarding the amount invested in the State of Gujarat during the last five years ;

(c) whether some banks have also selected certain villages for giving loans according to their requirements ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) All the scheduled commercial banks

give financial assistance for setting up business/industry to people living in rural areas.

(b) Data relating to total advances made by all scheduled commercial banks to Small Scale Industries (SSI) units in Gujarat for five years are tabulated below :

Last Friday of December	No. of accounts	Balance Outstanding (Rs. in lakhs)
1978	27629	17848.11
1979	37029	22024.04
1980	46340	26593.10
1981	56292	39698.52
1982	71449	35767.76

(c) and (d) Under Village Adoption Scheme banks have adopted 141042 villages in the country as at the end of June, 1983. Of these 5506 villages were situated in Gujarat.

Palm Oil Plantations in Andamans

221. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have at any stage considered any plan for undertaking palm oil plantations in Andamans and elsewhere in the country to meet the country's ever-increasing demand of this oil and thus save foreign exchange ; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) Yes Sir,

(b) The Andaman & Nicobar Plantation and Forest Development Corporation, Port Blair, is implementing a 2400 hectare red oil palm plantation in Little Andamans. The total outlay of the project is Rs. 9.09 crores and so far 1300 hectares have been raised.

Similarly, after preliminary survey conducted in areas with suitable agro-climatic conditions, a project for red