

(c) whether Union Government have issued necessary orders notifying the Banks about the location of headquarters and area of operation ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(a) At present, there are 14 Regional Rural Bank (Gramin Banks) in Andhra Pradesh which have been set up in terms of section 3(1) of the Regional Rural Banks Act 1976 (21 of 1976).

(b) In terms of section 6 (2) of the above mentioned Act, every State Govt. including the Government of Andhra Pradesh contributes 15% of the issued share capital of a Regional Rural Bank. In respect of the Regional Rural Banks set up in Andhra Pradesh so far, the State Government have subscribed their share in the equity of the regional rural banks.

(c) : Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Loans Advanced by London branch of Syndicate Bank to M/S. Esal Group of Companies

228. **SHRI S.M. GURADDI :**

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE

SHRI. Y.S. MAHAJAN

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Manager of the Syndicate Bank in London has resigned recently ;

(b) whether the resigned General Manager was in the London Office for the last ten years ;

(c) whether this London Branch of the syndicate Bank had advanced loans to Shri Rajendra Sethie of M/s. Esal Group of Companies which has recently been declared liquidated ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) whether the Banking Department of Government had made enquiries in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :
(a) and (b) : Deputy General Manager (and not a General Manager) of Syndicate Bank, who was posted to London as Branch Manager in 1976 and remained there ever since, has resigned from the Bank's service with effect from 31st October, 1984.

(c) According to information provided by the Syndicate Bank, it has not advanced any loans to Shri Rajendra Sethia or the Esal Group of Companies.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Busting of Multi-Crore Smuggling Racket in Bombay

229. **SHRI ANAND SINGH :**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a multi-crore smuggling racket had been busted by the Marine and preventive Wing of Bombay Customs following seizure of sophisticated smuggled household goods and arrest of six persons in Bombay around January 24, 1985 ; and

(b) if so, the details of the findings including those about the modus operandi of the racket and persons involved and action so far taken in that regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The Officers of the Marine and Preventive Wing of the Customs (Preventive) Collectorate, Bombay have detected a racket in misuse of Transfer Residence facility and clearance of unaccompanied baggage from Bombay Docks. As a result of the investigations conducted from 19.12.1984 upto 8th March, 1985, contraband goods valued at Rs. 1.24 crores have been seized in 34 cases 13 persons have also been arrested in this connection.

As the cases are still under investigation, it will not be expedient to disclose further details at this stage.