

(f) The representation from the Federation of the State Co-operative Banks is being examined.

Delay in Grant of Approval by NABARD under Credit Authorisation Scheme

3829. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development takes more than three months in granting the approval under Credit Authorisation Scheme for block capital loans required by terms lending institutions thereby resulting in escalation of the block capital expenditure of different projects in the cooperative sector ;

(b) if so, the number of applications in the 1983-84 which took more than three months for granting approval by NABARD and the number of applications which are pending for more than three months at present ; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to compensate the loss due to cost-escalation and for the approval of pending applications ?

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

(a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has to ensure the eligibility of the proposal on the basis of the prescribed formula and has also to ascertain whether the term lending institutions have appraised the project and sanctioned their share of the term loan. The concerned cooperative banks are granted authorisation to sanction term loans for block capital purposes only when the proposal conforms to RBI guidelines.

(b) and (c) During 1983-84, 31 block capital proposals were received by the National Bank for authorisation under Credit Authorisation Scheme. Out of these, 18 were sanctioned, 10 were rejected due to non-fulfilment of the prescribed criteria and two were voluntarily withdrawn by the banks. Of the eleven proposals authorised after 3 months, seven related to grant of authorisation due to temporary ineligibility. There is only one proposal relating to

1983-84 and two proposals received in 1984-85 which are pending for over 3 months in respect of which details are awaited from Banks. Pegging the capital outlay requirements at normative cost is mainly responsible for gap in the financial tie-up arrangements which delays the completion of the projects and results in cost over-runs.

Block Capital to Cooperative Agro-Based Industries

3830. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has since received a proposal for providing block capital to cooperative agro-based industries;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the proposal has neither been placed before the Board of Directors of NABARD even though a number of board meetings have been held after the receipt of the proposal nor the board have been apprised of the proposal;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the time by which the proposal is likely to be brought up before the Board of NABARD and finalised ?

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

(a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development have not so far received any proposal for providing block capital to cooperative agro-based industries.

(b) to (e) In view of (a) above the question does not arise.

Functioning of Nationalised and Foreign Banks in the Country

3831. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMMED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased state :

(a) the total number of nationalised banks in the country and the number of banks thereof in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of licenced foreign banks functioning in the country;

(c) whether Government propose to give licence to foreign banks in the near future; and

(d) the number of non-nationalised banks functioning and their total deposits ?

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

(a) Presently, 20 nationalised banks are functioning in the country out of which the Head Offices of 2 banks are in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) 19 Foreign banks are functioning in the country at present.

(c) Applications of Foreign banks seeking licences for opening branches in India are examined by the Reserve Bank of India on merits and the licences issued where these are considered justified.

(d) At present 53 non-nationalised banks (including foreign banks) are functioning in the country. Their total deposits (excluding inter-bank Deposits) as on 15-3-1985 were estimated at Rs. 5958.60 crores.

Appointment of CBI Cell in Nationalised Banks

3832. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a separate C.B.I. Cell to enquire into the mal-practices, corruption and misappropriations committed by bank managers and officers in various nationalised banks;

(b) whether protection is given to the honest bank employees if they made public the mal-practices going on in their respective branches; and

(c) whether the bank employees are permitted to make allegations against the higher-ups regarding misappropriations, and other mal-practices going on in their banks ?

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

(a) There is already a cell in CBI to deal with important cases relating to frauds committed in the nationalised banks.

(b) and (c) The bank employees are required to take an oath of secrecy and they cannot, therefore, make public any matter which comes to their notice during discharge of their official duties. It is, however, the duty of a bank employee to bring to notice of his/her management any malpractices or fraud which may come to his/her notice.

News Item Captioned—'Biggest Seizure of Contraband and Textile'

3833. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Biggest seizure of contraband and textile" in the 'Times of India' of 31st March 1985; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to put an end to racket in contraband textiles ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The drive against smugglers has been intensified. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs Department has been reinforced in vulnerable areas in terms of man-power and equipment and remain vigilant with respect to areas vulnerable to smuggling and commodities, including synthetic fabrics sensitive to smuggling. In addition, appropriate anti-smuggling measures are taken in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities. The matter is also kept under constant review for appropriate action.

U. S. Government Restriction on Export of Indian Garments

3834. SHRI ANAND SINGH :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

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

(a) whether Government of USA has decided to impose unilateral restrictions on the export of Indian garments to that country; and