

(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