

(a) whether Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have complained that their cooperation was not sought in the loan meals organised in their States by Union Finance Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of the complaints and the factual position in this regard; and

(c) the guidelines issued by Government for such future programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

[English]

**Proposal for Financing Housing and Leasing by Unit Trust of India**

1722. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India are considering any proposal for direct financing for housing and leasing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Unit Trust of India (Amendment) Bill, 1985, *inter alia*, seeks to enable the Unit Trust of India to transact the business of direct financing of housing and leasing.

**Pending Cases of Estate Duty**

1723. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Estate Duty cases pending as on 1st July, 1985;

(b) whether it is not possible to introduce summary assessment upto a certain financial limit to reduce the backlog;

(c) whether any such proposal is under consideration of his Government; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) There were 26711 Estate Duty cases pending as on 1st July, 1985.

(b) to (d). The Government has already issued instructions introducing a scheme of summary assessment for cases where the returned principle value does not exceed Rs. 3 lakhs.

**Regularisation of Service Conditions of Daily Pigmy Deposit Collectors**

1724. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to regularise the service conditions of daily Pigmy Deposit Collectors engaged by various nationalised banks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As pigmy deposit collectors are only agents for the purpose of collecting pigmy deposits, they only get their commission as per the contract between them and the bank concerned. Service conditions are only for the bank employees and as pigmy deposit collectors are not bank employees, there is no question of regularising their service conditions.

**Crisis faced by North Bengal Tea Companies**

1726. SHRI R. P. DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the crisis faced by the North Bengal tea companies because of certain restrictions imposed by Government; and