

November, 1983 under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. S. Sen to look into the problems of agricultural development in the Eastern Region, including Bihar. The Committee has submitted its report on 31.12.1984.

RBI has also reported that at the meeting of the State Level Bankers' Committee held on 1.2.86, presided over by Governor, RBI the problem of low credit-deposit ratio and general economic backwardness in Bihar was discussed. RBI has further reported that a Committee consisting of State Government Secretaries and senior bankers has been constituted to monitor the stepping up of the credit deposit ratio in Bihar. Such monitoring would be an ongoing process.

[Translation]

Minting of coins

166. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI
SHAKTAWAT :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH
PATIL :
SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN
SINHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coins minted in the country alongwith the number of coins imported from other countries during the year 1985-86;

(b) whether the cost of minting of coins in Foreign countries was less as compared with that in India.

(c) whether the storage of coins in the country will be completely removed during 1986-87; and

(d) whether Government propose to enact any effective law to check the melting of coins to obtain metal in view of their shortage ?

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

(a) *Million Pieces*

(i) Coins Minted in India 1760.47
during 1.4.85 to 8.2.86

(ii) Coins imported during 1083.26
the same period in the
denominations of Re. 1/-,
50 P and 25 P.

(b) Yer, Sir.

(c) With increased production and supply of indigenous coins as well as imports arranged, Government expect that the shortage situation will ease considerably.

(d) There is no such proposal. The Small Coins (Offences) Act 1971 (No. 52 of 1971) provides for punishment for melting or destruction of small coins as well as hoarding of small coins for the purpose of melting or destruction. This is considered adequate to take care of the situation.

Development of tourist centres in Himalayan Regions

167. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 80 tourist centres are being developed in the Himalayan Regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government plans to improve airport hassles, untidy hotels and poor information systems as also poor transportation and reservation system to attract more tourists from within and outside the country ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
(SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) This is not
a fact.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.