

(c) whether these steps would also have an impact on the incidence of frauds in banks;

(d) whether bank officers organisations have reacted strongly to these steps; and

(e) if so, the Government's response to these reactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). The Government have advised the Chief Executives of Public Sector Banks to review the cases of Officers who have completed 30 years of service or 55 years of age under Regulation 19(1) of the Officers Service Regulations so that officers of doubtful integrity and below average performance can be retired. This measure is aimed at improving management of bank at different levels. Banks have also been asked to ensure discipline and punctuality among the officers and staff. For quick redressal of customer complaints, customer service centres have been established at major centres. Banks have also created internal machinery for redressal of customer grievances. Bank executives at various levels are having greater contact with customers to assess the quality of the working of their branches.

(c) and (d). Yes, Madam.

(e) The mis-givings of the Bank Officers were cleared by the Indian Banks' Association and the Government in meetings with the Officers Organisation.

[English]

Issuance of new series of National Deposit Scheme in long term fiscal policy

199. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the noted economists have welcomed the proposal in the long term Fiscal Policy of issuing new series of National Deposit Scheme but felt

that the interest rate of 10 per cent envisaged in the scheme was inadequate;

(b) if so, the details regarding the comments received in favour of and against this scheme; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Different views have been expressed by the Economists and others in regard to the proposed National Deposit Scheme (NDS) in the Long Term Fiscal Policy. Some have suggested an increase in the rate of interest; others have favoured the extension of the benefit of Section 80-L on interest income. Some have interalia suggested raising the proportion of deposit eligible for deduction, while still others have asked for stipulation of a period for deposit.

(c) These views will be kept in view while taking final decision on the scheme.

Allocation of imported edible oils to States and Union Territories through P. D. S.

200. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have made an allocation of imported edible oils to the States and Union Territories for issue through public distribution system, under the scheme of small packs during January, 1986; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the quantities of imported edible oils allocated State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.