

[*Translation*]

**Corruption in Regional Rural Banks
in Gopalganj District (Bihar)**

260. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names and number of the branches of regional rural banks in Gopalganj district of Bihar against which complaints of corruption are being enquired into by C.B.I. or other agencies ;

(b) the dates when the enquiries were started ;

(c) the progress made in the enquiry so far and the number of officers of these branches found guilty and punished ; and

(d) the number of cases in regard to which enquiry will be completed by October next?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Complaints relating to seven branches of Regional Rural Bank namely Bathua Kuti, Bathua Bazar, Semra, Rajapati, Karwathi, Gopalganj and Sasamusa of Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank, were enquired into by Central Bureau of Investigation.

(b) The enquiry was conducted between July 1985 and May 1986.

(c) Reports are under scrutiny of Central Office, Central Bank of India, Bombay. Central Bank of India has also reported that it has advised the RRB Management to suspend the Branch Manager and ad-hoc incharge of Semra Branch and Branch Manager of Rajapati branch.

(d) The regular Chairman has joined the RRB, The enquiry proceedings against suspended staff as also other erring staff will be started and completed soon.

**Disappearance of Indian Citizens who
went Abroad**

261. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'Jansatta' dated 10th May, 1986 under the caption "Nau Nagrik Videsh Me Kahan Kho Gaye" (where have nine citizens been lost in foreign countries) ;

(b) if so, the reasons for which these Indian citizens have not returned after expiry of their visa ;

(c) whether they have been sent back after their identification ; and

(d) the country-wise number of Indian citizens lost abroad in 1984-85 and 1985-86 and details of action taken so far by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) . As the newspaper report in question says most of the people alleged to have been "lost" are those who have probably overstayed their visas and assumed different identities in order to remain abroad. In such cases, it is not always possible to trace them, though in respect of the names mentioned in the newspaper, Missions have been asked to make enquiries through the local Governments concerned. It may be added that whenever specific instances of missing persons are reported by relatives or other, Indian Missions make every effort to have them traced and repatriated to India if necessary. As regards figure of Indian nationals alleged to be "lost" or who do not keep in touch with their relatives information is seldom available with the foreign Governments concerned.

[*English*]

Excise and Customs Duty Concessions

262. DR. V. VENKATESH :

**SHRI BALASAHIB VIKHE
PATIL :**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had recently announced some excise and customs duty concessions ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, industry-wise ;

(c) the loss of revenue involved in these concessions ;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make up this loss ; and

(e) the extent to which these concessions are likely to result in reduction in prices of the manufactured goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Notifications giving exemption from customs and central excise duties issued by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue since the last Lok Sabha Session are being laid on the Table of the House Separately, with Explanatory Memoranda setting out the revenue implications, wherever possible.

(d) Any likely fall in revenue is proposed to be made up by better tax administration.

(e) It is not possible to quantify the consequent reduction in the prices of manufactured goods, which depend on various market forces.

Exportable items of Karnataka

263. Dr. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined export potential of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the particulars of exportable items from that State; and

(c) the foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi conducted an export potential survey of Karnataka during 1985.

(b) The Institute's survey identified 64 export products which may be divided into five major heads i.e.

(i) Agricultural and Allied products,

(ii) Textiles,

(iii) Handicrafts

(iv) Chemicals & Allied products, and

(v) Engineering products.

(c) The IIFT study estimated that the foreign exchange earning from the exports of survey products was of the order of Rs.262 crores during 1984-85. Statewise breakup of foreign exchange earnings is not maintained by the Government.

Setting up of Unit Trusts and Mutual funds in Rural Areas

264. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged Government for setting up of unit trusts and mutual funds in rural areas for stepping up industry's own savings during the seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how far this proposal is helpful in regard to industrialisation of rural areas of the country; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Government have been receiving from various quarters, including Chambers of Commerce, proposals to allow unit Trusts in the private sector.

(c) Government have decided to set up a new Mutual Fund in the public sector as a subsidiary of the Unit Trust of India in order to provide a channel for small investors.