

(b) Expansion of CBI, in order to discharge the duties and functions entrusted to it, is a continual process and based on need.

Streamlining administrative machinery of banks

1186. DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had discussions with the Chairmen of the Nationalised Banks recently regarding streamlining the administrative machinery of the various banks by computer based accounting procedure etc;

(b) if so, whether the Bank Employees Federations were consulted in this regard; and

(c) the details of the proposals and the response from the Bank Chiefs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of plutonium for industrial uses

1187. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) progress made in developing plutonium for industrial uses and for society;

(b) the details of achievements so far;

(c) the details of future plans; and

(d) how much plutonium is now being used by the industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Plutonium is a special nuclear material which can be used as fuel in nuclear reactors.

(b) The plutonium produced so far has been used in various forms for research and development. The Fast Breeder Test Reactor at Kalpakkam, commissioned in 1985, is fuelled by indigenously produced plutonium.

(c) Plutonium will be used as fuel in Fast Breeder Reactors, which constitute the second stage of developing nuclear energy for power production.

(d) Does not arise.

SCs/STs officers in nationalised banks and public financial institutions

1188. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIKWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers working in nationalised banks and public financial institutions and the number out of them belonging to SC/ST as on 1 January, 1986;

(b) whether the alarming low percentage of SC/ST officers in said institutions is due to the fact that promotion procedure in most of these institutions is based on selection in which reservation for SC/ST is not available; and

(c) the steps taken to provide reservation in such posts to improve the representation of SC/ST in services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) According to provisional data the number of Officers working in the Public sector Banks and financial Institutions and the