

(b) The functions of such cells besides monitoring the flow of credit to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries also include collection and compilation of statistical returns from branches and submission of returns to Reserve Bank of India and also to ensure implementation of Reserve Bank of India guidelines relating on this subject.

#### Debt Equity Ratio for New Fertilizer Plants

7425. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering higher debt-equity ratio for new fertilizer plants, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether allowing higher debt-equity ratio for fertilizer plants will help in reduction of subsidies in fertilizers;

(c) whether Government are considering higher debt-equity ratio in other industries also with a view to bring down the debt-servicing cost of the industry, if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government are proposing to give income-tax and other incentive to the industries with higher debt-equity ratio, if so ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The existing policy already permits a higher debt-equity ratio than the norm of 2 : 1 for certain types of capital intensive projects, including fertilizers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

#### White Tiger Population in India

7426. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of white tigers in the country both in zoos and also in forests;

(b) whether the white tiger population in India is facing extinction; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to save this race species ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z R. ANSARI) : (a) There are 34 white tigers reported in various zoos in the country. At present no white tigers are reported in the forests.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Kolaghat Thermal Power Project

7427. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has refused permission to a consortium of banks led by the State Bank of India to lend Rs. 70 crores to the Kolaghat Thermal Power Project for its second stage construction;

(b) if so, the R.B.I.'s objection to the idea of SBI led consortium lending Rs. 70 crores for Kolaghat's second stage construction; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to provide funds for second stage construction of Kolaghat Thermal Power Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that normally, banks are not expected to finance creation of infrastructure facilities including power. However, as a special case, Reserve Bank of India allowed a term loan of Rs. 25 crores to be shared by a consortium of banks led by the State Bank of India to meet a part of the project cost of Kolaghat Thermal Power Project Phase II. While authorising this amount, Reserve Bank of India, *inter-alia*, stipulated that

the gap of Rs. 45 crores should be taken up by term lending institutions or Government of West Bengal. The Industrial Development Bank of India has reported that the financial institutions have since sanctioned assistance to cover the gap of Rs. 45 crores.

**Assistant General Managers in Punjab National Bank**

7428. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) year-wise details from 1984 to 1986 of Assistant General Managers posted in Delhi Zone of Punjab National Bank; and

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes among them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The information furnished by Punjab National Bank is as under :

Sl. No.	Period	Name	Designation	Posting
1.	7.12.1981 to 31.08.1984	Shri S.A. Puri	Assistant General Manager	Zonal Manager
2.	9.8.1984 to 1.1.1985	Shri H.C. Jain	Assistant General Manager	Senior Regional Manager New Delhi
3.	2.1.1985 till date	Shri H C. Jain	Assistant General Manager	Zonal Manager

(b) None.

**Loss of Revenue due to Budgetary Modifications in Customs Duties on Chemicals**

7429. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the estimated net loss of revenue due to various modifications made in the tariff rates of customs duties on organic and inorganic chemicals announced in the budget for 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The estimated net effect on revenue due to various modifications made in the rates of customs duties on organic and inorganic chemicals taken together as announced in the budget for 1987-88 has resulted in a net gain in revenue.

**Classification of Pattukottai Town in Tamil Nadu**

7430. SHRI S. SINGARAYADIVEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the request of the Central Government employees of Pattukottai Town, Tamil Nadu, to classify that town as 'C' class city on the ground that the population has exceeded 50,000, has been turned down saying that the population was only 49,484 as per 1981 Census and that the mid-term Census cannot be taken as the basis;

(b) whether the population of Pattukottai town exceeded 50,000 and was 51,000 as per 1982 Census;

(c) whether Chidamparam, Kovilpatti, Mettupalayam, Paramakudi; Shivakasi and Thindivanam towns in Tamil Nadu were classified as 'C' class Town in the year 1979 only on the basis of mid-term census; and

(d) whether Government are considering to classify Pattukottai town as a 'C' class city on the same principle ?