

1

2

**XVI. SOCIAL WELFARE AND NUTRITION**

Social Security and Welfare	1200
-----------------------------	------

Nutrition	5000
-----------	------

Total (B): (Social Services)	266657
------------------------------	--------

**C. GENERAL SERVICES**

Total (C)	40000
-----------	-------

GRAND TOTAL:	1050000
--------------	---------

**Loan to Agriculture Sector in Maharashtra**

4862. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of advances made by the nationalised banks that has gone to the agricultural sector in Maharashtra during the last two years; and

(b) the measures taken to give maximum help to the agriculturists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) As per the available information the total outstanding advances of the 28 public sector banks in respect of agriculture as a percentage of their total outstanding advances in the State of Maharashtra were 6.5% in December 1984 and 6.8% in December, 1985. However, if the outstanding advances of the metropolitan centers are excluded, the outstanding agricultural advances of the 28 public sector banks as a percentage of their total outstanding advances in the State of Maharashtra were 44.61% in December 1984

and 45% in December 1985.

(b) Banks have been directed to meet credit requirements of the farmers from increasing agricultural production by providing timely and adequate assistance. They have also been advised that their direct advances to agriculture and allied activities should reach at least 16% of their total credit by March, 1987. The direct agricultural advances by public sector banks were 16.2% to total outstanding advances as at the end of March 1987. Besides, in terms of guidelines issued by RBI in March, 1984, banks have been advised to give various concessions/relaxations in the rate of interest, security norms, margin money stipulations and also to adopt simplified lending procedures for the priority sector which includes agricultural sector also.

**Felling of Old Trees**

4863. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit the owners of private forests to cut old trees on the condition that for cutting one old