

(c) if so, the achievements of these organisations ;

(d) whether any opium producer or representative of opium producers has been included in the delegation visiting foreign countries for selling opium and to apprise those countries about conditions of opium producers in India at international level ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) to (c) The total number of organisations of opium producers in the country is not officially known. However, representations voicing the grievances of opium cultivators have been received from the following organisations during the last few years :—

- (1) Afeem Utpadak Krishak Sangh, Pratappgarh (Rajasthan)
- (2) Hind Majdoor Kishan Panchayata, Mandsaur (Madhya Pradesh)
- (3) Uttar Pradesh Navyuvak Kishan Majdoor Kalyan Parishada, Barabanki (Uttar Pradesh)
- (4) Posta Utpadak Sangh
- (5) Akhil Bhartiya Posta Utpadak Kalyan Sewa Samiti, and
- (6) Lucknow Posta Kisan Mazdoor Sangh Trade Union.

Although no regular link is maintained with these organisations, except between the cultivators and departmental officers, references received from these organisations are considered sympathetically and promptly attended to.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, the socio-economic significance of opium production in the poppy growing regions of India is suitably projected in the various international fora by the Indian delegations from time to time. The Sessions of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs are attended by Government delegations and hence, the question of inclusion of any private individual or organisation does not arise.

#### Chairman of Regional Rural Banks

5307. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of regional rural banks being managed by Scale IV and Scale V officers of the sponsoring bank ;

(b) the details of regional rural banks where the term of the existing Chairman has expired ; and

(c) the action taken by Government to replace them in case of each such regional rural bank ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) There are at present 109 Regional Rural Banks with Chairman being officers belonging to Scale IV and Scale V of the Sponsoring banks.

(b) and (c) The term of office of existing Chairman of 23 regional rural banks has expired. The names of these banks are indicated in the statement below. Of these, new incumbents have been approved for seven regional rural banks and for the remaining 16 RRBs also selection for the posts of Chairmen would be made soon after the receipt of proposals from the sponsoring banks.

#### Statement

*Names of the RRBs where Term of Existing Chairman has Expired*

1. Pragjotish Gaonlia Band, Nalbari.
2. Murshidabad Gramin Bank, Berhampore.
3. Bastar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jagdalpur.
4. Shivpuri Guna Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shivpuri.
5. Ka Bank Nonkyndong Ri Khasi Jaintia, Shillong.
6. Mizoram Rural Bank, Aizwal.
7. Arunachal Pradesh Gramin Bank, Pasighat.
8. Kalahandi Anchalika Gramya Bank, Golaghat.
9. Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raigarh.

10. Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Allahabad.
11. Aravali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Swaimadipur.
12. Panchmahal Gramin Bank, Godhra.
13. Champaran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Motihari.
14. Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Siwan.
15. Saran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chapra.
16. Hissar Sirsa Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hissar.
17. Shekhawati Gramin Bank, Sikar.
18. Patliputra Gramin Bank, Patna.
19. Shivalik Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshiarpur.
20. Kapurthala Ferozpur Kshetriya Bank, Kapurthala.
21. Balasore Gramya Bank, Balasore.
22. Monghyr Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Monghyr.
23. Mayurakshi Gramin Bank, Suri.

**Extension Counter of UCO Bank at Deotsiddha in Hamirpur District, H.P.**

5308. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has allowed the UCO Bank to open an extension counter at Deotsiddha in Hamirpur District of Himachal Pradesh even though a branch of State Bank of India has been opened within two Kms. in the same grampanchayat area at village Chakmoh.

(b) if so, the considerations for which the permission has been given especially when the UCO Bank had declined to open nineteen branches, licences for which were allotted by the RBI to the bank in H.P. and later on the RBI had to allot the licences to some other banks ; and

(c) the justification for the action of the RBI for not taking action against the UCO Bank for not opening any of the allotted branches and then giving permission for opening of extension counter in rural area in Himachal Pradesh ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that an extension counter was allowed to UCO Bank in October, 1986 at Deotsiddha in Hamirpur District for providing restricted banking facilities as it was reported in the UCO Bank's application that no banking facilities were available upto 8 kms. State Bank of India has been allowed by RBI to open its branch, inter-alia, at Chaknoh in Hamirpur District subsequent to the grant of permission for the extension counter as the centre had been identified by the State Government and was found conforming to the norms laid down under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90.

(c) RBI has reported that cancellation of allotment of rural and semi-urban centres to UCO Bank in Himachal Pradesh and elsewhere was allowed by it in view of the ever-exposed position of the Bank in rural and semi-urban areas. The relative centres have been allotted by RBI to other banks. Norms for allotment/opening of extension counters and for full-fledged branches are different and as such surrendering of licences in respect of rural and semi-urban branches by UCO Bank would not have direct relevance for considering its proposal for opening extension counter(s) in the same area.

#### **Guidelines for Allotting Bank Lockers**

5309. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued certain guidelines to be followed by all the banks in allotting lockers to the customers ;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued in this regard ;

(c) the follow-up measures proposed to be taken to ensure that the banks follow the guidelines strictly ; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in case these guidelines are violated by certain banks ?