

Processing Zone (EPZ) Units, especially when 25 per cent of their production can be sold in the domestic market; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) is not applicable to Export Promotion Zone Units in regard to foreign share holding. The permission to sell 25% of the production in the DTA is a facility that is accorded on a case by case basis subject to the exclusion of certain sensitive items and to the payment of appropriate duties. The objective in granting this facility is to improve the viability of the zone units, afford them a measure of protection against the uncertainties of the export market and serve as an incentive to attract investments in the Zones.

#### **Holding of Seminars by Indian Investment Centre**

7372. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Investment Centre has planned a series of seminars in India and abroad as part of programme and collaboration in India;

(b) if so, the objective behind it;

(c) the estimated cost for conducting the seminars; and

(d) the number of countries likely to participate in the seminars?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (d). The seminars are being organised to familiarise foreign companies and non-Resident Indians with the latest policies of the Govt. and the facilities and opportunities available for investment in India. The seminars are proposed to be held in various countries like USA, UK, South Korea, Federal Republic of Germany, Australia and New Zealand for the target audience in those countries. The total estimated cost for these seminars is Rs. 3.0 lakhs.

#### **Acceptance of Deposits by Co-operative Land Development Banks**

7373. SHRI PALAS BARMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the co-operative land development banks are permitted to accept deposits from the public as is done by the commercial banks, the Central Co-operative banks, the regional rural banks, etc.; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that Land Development Banks are allowed to accept deposits for periods not less than one year and not exceeding two years.

#### **Veli Vikram Sarabhai Railway Station**

7374. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop Veli Vikram Sarabhai Railway Station in Trivandrum district; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

**MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):** (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to develop Veli railway station. The facilities available at this halt station are considered adequate for the level of traffic dealt with.

**Advancing of Loans by Kisan Grameen Bank, Budaun (Uttar Pradesh)**

**7375. SHRIPURNACHANDRAMALIK:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kisan Grameen Bank, Budaun (Uttar Pradesh) is facing shortage of funds;

(b) whether the managers of the Bank were directed on 30 January, 1989 to keep all loaning powers in abeyance; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard so that poor rural people do not suffer?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):** (a) to (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the Chairman of Kisan Gramin Bank (U.P.) had instructed all Branch Managers in January 1989 to stop further loaning in view of poor fund position of the bank to avoid continuous default in CRR/SLR. Subsequently, the Chairman advised the branches that in cases where part payment of loans have been made, the balance amount of loans be released by the bank. As regards AAP/IRDP targets, lead bank in consultation with the sponsor bank allocated the balance to sponsor bank branches and branches of State Bank of India to ensure that Government programmes do not suffer for want of credit.

Punjab National Bank, the sponsor bank has advised the Gramin Bank to step up its

efforts for improvement in recovery as also deposit mobilisation for improving its own funds position.

**Proposal for setting up of Educational Institutions by Tea Board**

**7376. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tea Board proposes to establish its own schools and colleges in the tea garden areas of North Bengal; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 provides for the creation of Educational facilities in respect of tea plantation labourers which are to be implemented by tea garden owners and respective State Governments

**Representation regarding Remunerative Prices for Tobacco Growers**

**7377. SHRI B.N. REDDY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received representations on March 28, 1989 regarding remunerative prices for the tobacco growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI):** (a) to (c). Some representations were received on 28th March, 1989 regarding remunerative prices to the Tobacco Growers.

A meeting was held with representa-