

**Opening of Office of Chief Controller
of Export and Import at Varanasi**

1694. SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware
of the demand for opening the office of
the Chief Controller of Export and Import
to help exporters of Varanasi silk sarees
and carpets ; and

(b) if so, when the demand will be
met ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A.
SANGMA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request has been referred to
the Study Team set up by the Government
to consider restructuring and other func-
tional aspects of the CCI&E organisation.

Smuggling on the Borders

1695. SHRI AMARSINH RATH-
AWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state :

(a) the number of smugglers arrested
during the first six months of this year
on our borders and the details of the goods
recovered from them ;

(b) whether large quantities of arms
are also smuggled by those smugglers ;

(c) if so, the details of arms recovered
during the said period ; and

(d) the special steps being taken to
seal our borders to avoid smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANAR-
DHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) The in-
formation is being collected and will be
laid on the Table of the House.

**Categorisation of Posts and Branches in
Nationalised Banks**

1696. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
Will the Minister of Finance be pleased
to state ;

(a) whether any guidelines have been
recently issued by Government on categori-
sation of posts and branches in nationa-
lised banks ;

(b) if so, what are these guidelines ;

(c) whether the All India Confedera-
tion of Bank Officers' Organisation
AICOBBO), the Indian Banks' Associa-
tion (IBA) and other unions were consulted
before the issue of these guidelines and if
not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether these guidelines would
curtail promotional prospects ;

(e) whether the AICOBBO, IBA and
others have objected to the said guide-
lines ?

(f) if so, the nature of these objec-
tions ; and

(g) Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANAR-
DHANA POOJARY) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In accordance with the provisions
of Officers Service Regulations, branches
have to be classified into small, medium,
large etc. according to the criteria to be
approved by Government. Government
had earlier issued certain guidelines in-
dicating the criteria for classifying bran-
ches. These criteria were recently revised
and fresh guidelines have been issued
under which, among other things, the
criteria for business turn-over has been
revised upwards.

(c) Discussions and consultations bet-
ween Government and IBA on all issues
affecting the industry is a continuous pro-
cess. These guidelines were issued to the
banks after taking into account all rele-
vant factors.

(d) to (g) The All India Confe-
deration of Bank Officers Organisations
(AICOBBO) in its circulars have objected
to the modifications in the criteria for
categorisation of branches on the plea
that large number of posts will have to be