

(c) examine the advisability of consolidating the four laws relating to income-tax, surtax, wealth-tax and gift-tax into one Act;

(d) prepare drafts of the Bills for being presented before Parliament.

According to the Resolution dated the 25th June, 1977, the Committee is to submit its report by the 31st December, 1977. The Committee has submitted an interim report on 19th December, 1977. This is under examination of the Government. The Government understands that the Committee is likely to seek extension of time for submitting its final report.

Uniform Cooperative Acts for all States

5009. SHRI PADMACHARAN SAMANTASINHERA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to form a uniform co-operative act for all States with removal of two-term restrictions to contest the democratic Co-operative elections, and

(b) if so, what is the proposal and when it is being worked out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) and (b). A set of guidelines on State cooperative laws was prepared and circulated to the State Governments in May, 1976. Among others, it has been suggested in the guidelines that the State cooperative laws may be amended so as to place restrictions on the number of terms a member could hold office in a cooperative society. A number of States have already amended their Cooperative Societies Acts on these lines. There is no proposal to suggest to the State Governments any modification in this provision.

Amount Deposited in Nationalised Banks in Orissa

5010. SHRI PADMACHARAN SAMANTASINHERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount deposited in nationalised banks in Orissa State;

(b) the amount, the nationalised banks have invested as loan to (i) small farmers (ii) big farmers and (iii) industrialists;

(c) what is the proposal to give more loans to small farmers;

(d) the total amount of defaulted loans;

(e) the number of the defaulting loanees bank-wise having loan more than Rs. 50,000/-; and

(f) what action is being taken for the early recovery of such loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The total deposits of public sector banks in Orissa amounted to Rs. 120.93 crores and Rs. 152.90 crores as at the end of December 1975 and 1976 respectively.

(b) Electoral break-up of public sector banks' advances in Orissa, available as at the end of December 1975, shows that of the total outstanding advances of Rs. 70.61 crores, agriculture and allied activities accounted for Rs. 8.89 crores, small-scale industry for Rs. 8.48 crores and major and medium industry for Rs. 41.55 crores.

Available data relating to holding-wise distribution of direct agricultural advances of public sector banks in Orissa as at the end of September 1976 show that of the total outstanding direct finance amounting to Rs. 8.42 crores, farmers having holdings upto 5 acres accounted for Rs. 5.14 crores or 61 per cent of the total.

(c) To encourage the banks to meet the credit requirements of the small farmers in an increasing measure, the Reserve Bank of India has announced that it would provide refinance to the extent of 50 per cent of the loans given to the small farmers after January 1, 1978.

(d) to (f). Available information regarding recovery of direct agricultural advances as at the end of June 1976 shows that of the total demand of Rs. 5.15 crores as on that date, the public sector banks had recovered Rs. 2.20 crores, leading to an overdue of Rs. 2.95 crores. Break-down of these data according to the size of credit limits is not available.

Banks review the position of overdue agricultural loans from time to time and take such steps as are necessary for their recovery, including realisation of security, recovery from sureties and guarantors or institution of legal proceedings.