

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Import of cloves is now allowed under Open General Licence, i.e. without any insistence on prior, firm contracts, as it was earlier.

(b) Does not arise.

Impact of Gold Control Order on high prices of Gold

5089 SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state the effect of the Gold Control Order, as amended recently on the high prices of gold in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL) The concessions given to certified goldsmiths recently through the issue of notifications/orders dated 14.2.1978 are primarily aimed at the improvement of their means of livelihood. They may have no direct impact on the prices of gold in the market.

बिहार के प्राविवासी क्षेत्रों में प्राचीण बैंकों की स्थापना

5090. श्री दुबराज : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि बिहार के प्राविवासी क्षेत्रों में प्राचीण बैंकों की स्थापना की जायेगी; और यदि हाँ, तो छोटा नागपुर और संथाल परगना जिलों में वे कहाँ-कहाँ पर स्थापित किए जायें ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : देश में कार्यरत 48 क्षेत्रीय प्राचीण बैंकों में से 7 बैंक बिहार में हैं, जिनमें से एक जिला संथाल परगना को व्याप्त करता है। बिहार सहित देश में और क्षेत्रीय बैंकों की स्थापना के प्रश्न पर दांतबाला समिति की

सिफारिशों को ध्यान में रख कर सरकार विचार करेगी, जिसे क्षेत्रीय प्राचीण बैंकों के कार्य की समीक्षा करने के लिए गठित किया गया है।

Relaxation for Entrance Examination and Departmental Promotion to SC/ST in Income Tax Department

5091. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether relaxation of 10 per cent marks for the entrance examination and departmental promotion is allowed to SC/ST in the Income Tax Department and if so, how many SC/ST candidates have derived the benefit so far during the last three years for recruitment and promotion in non-gazetted and gazetted cadres and what is contemplated to be done further to make up the shortfall;

(b) whether there is a heavy shortfall of ST in gazetted cadre in Income Tax, Customs and Central Excise departments and if so, what action Government contemplates to take;

(c) is it a fact that one ST candidate from Bombay office who has passed departmental examination for promotion to Income tax officer's post has not been promoted and if so, what was the fun in allowing him to appear for the examination; and

(d) is it a fact that one General candidate at Bombay office of Income Tax Department has been given ad hoc promotion as an officer from the category which is not eligible for promotion, thus ignoring the rights of other SC/ST candidates senior to him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) to (d). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.