

As regards increase in fares on domestic services, there is no proposal under consideration of Government at present.

**Opening of branches of Nationalised Banks in Arunachal Pradesh**

5460. SHRI RINCHING KHANDU KHRIME, Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many branches of nationalised banks have been opened in Arunachal Pradesh and how many branches are likely to be opened during the financial year of 1979-80;

(b) total number of long term loans and rural credit facilities like agriculture loan extended till 1978; and

(c) what are the new schemes being undertaken by Government to finance the tribal areas for their economic development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) As at the end of December 1978, the public sector banks had 18 branches in Arunachal Pradesh. As on that date the State Bank of India had 12 licences pending with it for opening branches in the Union Territory. These branches are expected to be opened as soon as possible.

(b) Available data relating to the public sector banks as at the end of June 1978, are set out in the attached statement.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India has advised all commercial banks to adopt FSS/LAMPS in tribal areas so as to facilitate credit flow to weaker sections through these institutions. Further, banks have also been advised that the credit planning should be weighted in favour of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and special bankable schemes suited to members of these communities should be drawn

up to ensure a larger flow of credit to them for self-employment. The Scheme of Differential Rate of Interest has been modified, requiring the banks to lend under the Scheme at least one per cent of their total advances, 40 per cent of which should be to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes borrowers.

**Statement**

Statement showing priority sector advances of public sector banks in Arunachal Pradesh as at the end of June 1978.

(Amount in lakhs of rupees)

	Balance Outstanding
1. Agriculture (Direct only)	
(a) Short Term . . . . .	0.03
(b) Medium and Long Term. . . . .	0.67
	<u>0.70</u>
2. Retail Trade . . . . .	1.16
3. Professionals and self-employed. . . . .	0.74
4. Small Scale Industries. . . . .	1.08
5. Road Transport Operators. . . . .	22.09
Total Priority Sector advances. . . . .	<u>25.77</u>

**Direct purchase of Rubber**

5461. DR. P. V. PERIASAMY:  
SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the purchases of rubber were not in conformity with the prevailing international price;

(b) whether the industry has asked for letter of authority from the S.T.C. to make direct purchases of rubber, and