

potential and better yields-introduction of B-747 services in place of B-707 on routes which require and can sustain additional capacity.

(ii) *Expenditure*; Closure of certain unremunerative offices;

— review of staff strength at various regional establishments;

— reduction in consumption of fuel as far as possible;

— Cut in expenditure on items such as telephones, overtime, transportation etc.

#### **Karnataka Plan to attract Tourist**

2751. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tourist Department and the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation have prepared a new strategy to attract more tourists to the Karnataka during the current year;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the scheme; and

(c) what assistance and help Union Government has agreed to give?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### **Recommendations of Working Group on Priority Sector Lending**

2752. SHRI B. V. DESAI:

SHRI K. PRADHANI:

SHRI S. A. DORAI SEBASTIAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the R.B.I. and Government have accepted the recommendations of the working group

headed by the Dr. K. S. Krishnswamy, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India on priority sector lending and implementation of the 20 point economic programme by commercial banks;

(b) if so, what are the details of the programme;

(c) to what extent the banks have been able to implement the 20 point programme;

(d) how many banks have so far implemented the 20 point programme; and

(e) the total persons benefited due to this?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the guidelines recently issued by the Reserve Bank to all the commercial banks in this regard are set out in the Annex.

(c) to (e). Banks are implementing credit schemes through the District Credit Plans for the benefit of landless labourers, marginal and small farmers, handloom weavers, artisans and craftsmen etc. towards whom the 20 Point Programme is directed. They have also now been advised specific target groups of weaker sections within the Priority Sectors comprising beneficiaries of the 20 Point Programme towards which they need to devote concentrated attention and effort. The data in regard to progress of implementation of the programme have not, however, yet started flowing from the reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India.

#### **Statement**

It has been decided that the Public Sector Banks will increase the flow of credit to the Priority Sectors over the next five years so as to raise the proportion of such advances in the aggregate credit to the level of 40 per cent by 1985 and also ensure that a signi-

ificant proportion of the enlarged credit will flow to the weaker sections of the community which are beneficiaries of the 20 Point Programme.

The strategy which the banks should adopt to implement this decision over the next five years has been spelt out in details to the banks. The main highlights of the strategy are outlined below:

(a) The share of priority sector advances in the total bank credit should be 40 per cent by 1985 as against 33 per cent in March 1980.

(b) The share of Agricultural Sector will be at least 40 per cent of the priority sector advances or 16 per cent of the total bank credit.

(c) Within the priority sectors a concept of "Weaker Section" has been accepted. In the agricultural sector, the weaker would comprise small and marginal farmers with land holding of 5 acres or less and landless labourers and persons engaged in other allied activities with borrowal limits not exceeding Rs. 10,000/-. In the small scale industry sector the weaker section would comprise of artisans, craftsmen and cottage and village industry and other small units having credit limits not exceeding Rs. 25,000/-.

(d) To ensure increased flow of credit to the weaker sections, it has been decided that the weaker section in the agricultural sector will account for not less than 50 percent of the banks' total direct lendings to agriculture, by 1983. In the small scale industry sector the weaker sections would account for 12.5 per cent of the total advances of the banks to small scale industry by 1985. (Present ratio is around 6.25 per cent).

(e) Target groups which are beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme have been identified within the priority sectors for concentrated attention from the banks.

(f) The coverage of priority sectors is propose to be widened to cover housing loans for the scheduled castes/

scheduled tribes and economically weaker sections (loan amount not exceeding Rs. 5,000/-) and consumption loans under the 20 Point Programme.

(g) Banks will endeavour to provide for assistance to the beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme with the district credit plans explicit provision being made in action plans for each of the 3 years 1980-82.

(h) For classification of advances as Priority Sector advances the definitions of some of the Priority Sectors, viz. Transport, Retail Trade and Small Business, Professional and self-employed have been refined keeping in view the need to increase the thrust of credit assistance towards smaller borrowers.

(i) While continuing to provide direct assistance to the beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme, the banks have been asked also to take benefit of State sponsored corporations/agencies for routing their credit to the target groups provided the corporations or agencies cater exclusively to the weaker sections of the society in the various priority sectors or draw up specific schemes for financing by banks exclusively for the benefit of the weaker sections.

(j) The private sector banks also now been asked to raise the share of priority sectors to the level of 40 per cent and participate in extending assistance to the beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme on the same lines as the public sector banks.

#### **Import Licences**

2753. SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many import licences have been given endorsement to import canalised or banned items, since the announcement of the import policy this year; and

(b) how many items are involved or effected to by such endorsement to import; what is the amount involved