

**Regional Economic Cooperation in South Asia**

4563. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that except Pakistan all other countries in the region have agreed to go ahead with negotiations for the formation of a Regional Economic Cooperation Organisation in South Asia;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) the details of the constitution and functions of the organisation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (c). The President of Bangladesh had made a proposal about regional cooperation in South Asia. It is understood that this has been welcomed in principle by the countries of the South Asian region i.e. Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The Bangladesh Government as now prepared a paper elaborating this proposal and has transmitted it to the Governments concerned for study and consideration.

**Posts in the Office of Directorate of Weights and Measures lying vacant**

4564. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many posts in the office of Directorate of Weights and Measures are lying vacant at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a Lower Division Clerk is running the Bombay branch of Weights and Measures during the past four years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to fill the posts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY):

(a) to (c). One post of Assistant Director, Weights and Measures at Bombay and a post of Senior Investigator at Calcutta are vacant. It is not a fact that a Lower Division Clerk is running the Bombay office of the Directorate of Weights and Measures for the past four years. The post of Assistant Director, Weights and Measures, Bombay fell vacant on 1-5-1979, consequent upon the retirement of its previous incumbent on superannuation. The Assistant Secretary, Forward Markets Commission, Bombay has been authorised to perform the administrative functions of the Bombay office of the Directorate of Weights & Measures. Steps for filling up the two vacant posts are underway.

**Opening of Bank Branches in Bharatpur and Alwar**

4565. SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to select any experimental projects for intensive development of model districts through bank financing; and

(b) if so, whether Bharatpur and Alwar come in the choice; what number and where the new bank branches are likely to be opened in near future in such model districts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). Banks do not have a scheme for intensive development of model districts. However, under the Lead Bank Scheme, the lead banks have been asked to draw up District Credit Plans for their lead districts for the period 1980 to 1982 (calendar years) so as to ensure coordinated action for increasing the flow of credit to productive ventures of small borrowers in the priority sectors. For the districts of Alwar and Bharatpur also such plans have been drawn up envi-

saging credit outlays of Rs. 32.44 crores and Rs. 26.56 crores respectively over the three year period.

In terms of the current branch licensing policy of the Reserve Bank of India, branch expansion efforts of the commercial banks during 1979—81 are primarily to be directed towards opening of branches at unbanked rural and semi-urban centres in districts having poorer banking coverage, than one branch for every 20,000

people in the rural and semi-urban areas. In terms of this norm 66 and 75 rural and semi-urban branches should be functioning respectively in Alwar and Bharatpur Districts. As at the end of September, 1980, 66 and 64 rural and semi-urban branches were functioning in these two districts. In addition, banks had on hand 7 licences of Alwar District and 17 licences for Bharatpur District for opening branches at rural/semi-urban centres as indicated in the statement.

#### Statement

*List of Centres in respect of which allotments/licences were pending with the Banks as at the end of September, 1980 for opening branches in the Districts of Alwar and Bharatpur in Rajasthan.*

Name of the Centre	Classification of the centre	Name of the Bank holding allotments/Licences
1	2	3
<i>District: Alwar</i>		
1. Samuchi . . . . .	Rural	Punjab National Bank
2. Sakat . . . . .	-do-	-do-
3. Sahedoli . . . . .	-do-	-do-
4. Jeriya . . . . .	-do-	-do-
5. Khantral Mandi . . . . .	-do-	-do-
6. Harsora . . . . .	-do-	-do-
7. Behrod . . . . .	-do-	State Bank of India
<i>District: Bharatpur</i>		
1. Mahuwakhera . . . . .	Rural	Punjab National Bank
2. Dhahara . . . . .	-do-	-do-
3. Ajan . . . . .	-do-	-do-
4. Khan Surajpur . . . . .	-do-	-do-
5. Nonera . . . . .	-do-	-do-
6. Salampur . . . . .	-do-	-do-

1	2	3
7. Astabon . . . . .	Rural	Punjab National Bank
8. Helar . . . . .	-do-	-do-
9. Vishnoda . . . . .	-do-	-do-
10. Koror . . . . .	-do-	-do-
11. Bahnera . . . . .	-do-	-do-
12. Sahana . . . . .	-do-	-do-
13. Moroli . . . . .	-do-	State Bank of India
14. Brahamabad . . . . .	-do-	-do-
15. Ballabgarh . . . . .	-do-	-do-
16. Bhusawar . . . . .	-do-	-do-
17. Bharatpur . . . . .	Semi-Urban	New Bank of India

**Tours in India and Abroad by  
Chairman of I.A.A.I.**

4566. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many times Chairman of International Airport Authority went on tour abroad and within the country during the last one year;

(b) what is the amount of travelling allowance claimed by the Chairman during this period in foreign Currency and Indian Currency;

(c) how many times in a year his predecessor went on tour abroad and within the country during period of one year; and

(d) if it is a fact that tour programmes of Chairman I.A.A.I. are not circulated but kept secret?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). For the period 1-11-79 to 31-10-80 details of the tours of the present Chairman, IAAI and the Travelling allowance claimed are given below:—

	Fare	D.A.	Remarks
Number of tours within the country	24	Rs. 28871.50	Rs. 4684.00
Tours abroad . . . . .	7	Rs. 45764.00*	US \$ 1692 *TA claims in respect of seventh tour are not included because the claims are yet to be finalised.
		Libyan } 259	
		South } 240	
		Yeman } 240	
		Dinars }	
			Rs. 3748.50