

(c) The annual inflation rate for each month since February, 1997 together with the rates for the corresponding period of 1994-95 and 1995-96 is listed below:

Month	Annual Inflationary rise in Consumer Price Index (%)		
	1997	1996	1995
February	10.8	8.6	9.8
March	10.0	8.9	9.7
April	9.3	9.8	9.7
May	7.3	9.3	10.3

[English]

Bank Branches of RRB in Azamgarh

628. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Regional Rural Banks working in the rural areas of Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the amount of loans disbursed during the last two years;

(c) the percentage of loan disbursed in comparison with the total deposits in the bank during the said period;

(d) whether the loan worth lakhs of rupees have been given against fake names;

(e) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), 64 branches of Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank are functioning in the rural areas of Azamgarh District of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The amount of loans disbursed by Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 (latest available) were as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Year	Amount
1994-95	1911.59
1995-96	1843.00

(c) The percentage of loans outstanding in comparison to the total deposits of the said Regional Rural Bank during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 were as under:-

Year	Loans outstanding	Deposits	(Rs. in lakhs)
			Percentage of loans to deposits
(as at end March)			
1994-95	7624	26919	28.32
1995-96	7845	33404	23.48

(d) to (f) NABARD have reported that they have no information regarding loans provided in fake names and that no such cases have been reported to NABARD during the last two years.

Separate Directorate for SSI

629. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL:

SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for creation of a separate Directorate for small scale industrial units in all the States for taking proper decisions for promoting small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to hold any census of small scale industries in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the last census held and latest census likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Department related Parliamentary standing Committee in its 21st report recommended a separate Directorate or Ministry for the Small Scale Industry in the States. States have been requested to take necessary action.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The third Census of registered small scale industries in the country is proposed to be conducted during the year 1999-2001. The last census was conducted during 1989-1992 with reference year 1987-88. Salient features are attached as Statement.