

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Bihar

8258. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks opened in Bihar in the year 1981-82 and the names of the places where these branches have been opened;

(b) the number of branches of nationalised banks proposed to be opened and the names of the places where these branches will be opened in Bihar in 1982-83; and

(c) what are the criteria fixed for opening of a branch of a nationalised bank?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India have recently formulated branch licensing policy for the three years 1982-83 to 1984-85. The new policy envisages opening additional bank offices in rural and semi-urban areas so as to achieve banking coverage of one branch on an average for 17,000 people in the rural/semi-urban areas. The State Governments have been addressed by the Reserve Bank to identify rural and semi-urban centres for branch opening in consultation with the District Consultative Committees. The centres are normally decided upon in response to felt needs of developmental programmes, potential for business development etc. and in such a manner as to maximise the geographical coverage of the branch net work by filling up gaps in the existing coverage.

Bihar Government to set up Tourist Villages

8259. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Bihar has forwarded names of places for locating

tourist villages in response to the suggestions of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir. However, it has been decided to set up a tourist village in Buxur for which purpose the State Government has been requested to make land available.

(b) Does not arise.

Tea Companies in Financial Management with United Commercial Bank, Calcutta

8260. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Tea Gardens/tea companies, Location-wise, which are in financial arrangements with the United Commercial Bank, Calcutta including those which are maintaining Tea Hypothecation Accounts with the said Bank;

(b) whether it is a fact that small tea growers are being neglected in the matter of providing adequate finance while bigger units are provided finance without any agreement with their production capacity despite various serious defaults in their account; and

(c) if so, action being contemplated to provide relief to small growers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) United Commercial Bank has financed a total of 65 tea gardens. Their location-wise spread is as under:

(i) West Bengal (Doors, Terai & Darjeeling)	22
(ii) Assam Valley and Cachar	37
(iii) Tripura	3
(iv) South India	3

In addition, the Bank has also provided term loan on consortium basis to the Tamilnadu Tea Corporation for development purposes.