

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a): Available data showing details of the loans in percentage terms advanced under the Differential Rates of Interest Scheme by the public sector banks state-wise during the years 1978, 1979 and 1980 is shown in the *Annexe I, II & III* [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4009/82]

(b): Under the scheme, the banks are required to lend at least one per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of the previous year to persons whose total family income in a year does not exceed Rs. 2000 in the rural areas and Rs. 3000 in urban/semi-urban areas and except in the case of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, who do not own land exceeding one acre, if irrigated and 2.5 acres if un-irrigated. The maximum amount of loan available under the scheme at 4 per cent per annum rate of interest is Rs. 6,500/-. The banks are to lend at least 40 per cent of the advances under the scheme to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and at least two-third advances through rural/semi-urban branches. There are no state-wise targets under the scheme.

Setting up of Gold refinery

9257. **SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry has urged the Centre to set up a Gold refinery in Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the latest position of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir:

The Government propose to set up gold refineries (to be run by the Government) in certain important cities, including Ahmedabad. The details are under examination.

SC/ST officers posted abroad

9258. **SHRI QAZI SALEEM:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many Gazetted Officers are there in the Department of Tourism and how many of them belong to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the officers are being posted abroad for the second time whereas some others have been ignored totally; if so, the reasons for this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) (a): There are 95 Gazetted Officers in the Department of Tourism, of whom 9 belong to Scheduled Castes and 6 to Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Yes, Sir. Some officers have been posted abroad for the second time. Postings are made as per guidelines framed therefor and the question of making discrimination, therefore, does not arise.

Emplyees working in State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur

9259. **SHRI R. N. RAKESH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of employees working in State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, grade-wise and cadre-wise;

(b) number of employees belonging to SC/ST communities