

The Board's Regional Offices are functioning at Agartala and Gauhati and their senior technical officers are rendering all possible advice to the rubber growers of the North-Eastern Region. A Regional Research Centre is also functioning at Agartala for undertaking research work on rubber. Planting materials are made available to the growers from the nurseries of Rubber Board and other Public Sector plantations in the North Eastern Region.

(c) Extensive Rubber Cultivation in the North Eastern Region can solve the problems of (1) national shortage of rubber, (2) deforestation and (3) the pernicious practice of jhoom cultivation. It would also offer large scale employment opportunities in the region.

Demand from West Bengal for Cloth

9279. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a demand from the West Bengal Government for the supply of more cloth to enable State Government to meet the public demand in that State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action Government have taken so far in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The reference is presumably to controlled cloth since there is no system of allocation of non-controlled cloth to State Governments. Government have not recently received any demand from the West Bengal State Government for the supply of more controlled cloth. Controlled cloth is being supplied to the State of West

Bengal in accordance with the criteria adopted for distribution of controlled cloth to all the States. This allocation is done after taking into account the population and having regard to the production level of such cloth fixed for the year and the availability of cloth during the particular month.

Changes in statutory rules in Government Savings Bank Act.

9280. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
SHRI D. M. PUTTE-
GOWDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently brought changes in the statutory rules under Government Saving Bank Act;

(b) if so, full details thereof; and

(c) how far the said changes benefit the poor and middle class people?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). The rules relating to various types of accounts kept in Post Office Savings Banks, framed under the Government Savings Bank Act, 1873, have been revised with a view to simplifying and streamlining them. The revised rules, namely, (i) Post Office Savings Bank General Rules, 1981 (ii) Post Office Savings Account Rule, 1981 (iii) Post Office Time Deposit Rules, 1981 (iv) Post Office Cumulative Time Deposit Rules, 1981 and (v) Post Office Recurring Deposit Rules, 1981 have been notified on 17-12-1981. Copies of these rules have been laid on the Table of the House on 22-12-1981.

(c) The revised rules, effective from 1-4-1982, govern the savings

accounts, time deposit accounts, cumulative time deposit accounts and recurring deposit accounts in Post Office Savings Banks. The rules are uniformly applicable to all depositors.

Direction to Foreign Drug Companies for Reduction of Equity

9281. SHRI B. R. NAHATA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign drug manufacturing companies to which direction was given to reduce their equity to 40 per cent forthwith and further reduce it to 26 per cent progressively;

(b) which companies have acted on this direction as provided in Para 13 of the New Drug Policy; and

(c) if any company has not acted on it, then what action has been taken against it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Para 15 of the New Drug Policy stipulates that those engaged in the manufacture of formulations or bulk drugs not involving high technology or both should be directed to bring down foreign equity to 40 per cent forthwith. A statement is attached showing the names of seven companies covered under this para. Except the last company, all others have acted on the directives. The case of M/s. Smith, Kline and French (I) Ltd. has been referred to the Directorate of Enforcement for investigation.

Statement

Pure Formulators

1. The Anglo-French Drug Co. (Eastern) Ltd., Bombay.
2. Abbot Laboratories (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

3. Carter Wallace & Co. Ltd., Bombay.

4. C. E. Furfort (I) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

5. Indian Schering Ltd., Bombay.

6. Nicholas of India Ltd, Bombay.

7. Smith, Kline & French (I) Ltd., Bangalore.

Change in Post Office Savings Bank Rules

9282. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made some changes in the Post Office Savings Bank rules with effect from 1st April, 1982; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and upto what amount money in the Savings Bank will be disbursed straight-way to the next of heir in the event of death of a depositor without nomination?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Rules governing various types of accounts in Post Office Savings Banks have been revised with a view to simplifying and streamlining them. The revised rules have come into force from 1-4-1982.

(b) Copies of Ministry of Finance Notification Nos. GSR 662(E), 663(E), 664(E), 665(E) and 666(E) all dated 17-12-1981, containing the Post Office Savings Bank General Rules, 1981, Post Office Savings Account Rules, 1981, Post Office Time Deposit Rules, 1981, Post Office Cumulative Time Deposit Rules, 1981 and