

from Kerala Govt., Kerala Dinesh Beedi supplied two consignments of beedis to Switzerland firm named "Magic Garden" during 1980. This firm has placed another order for 24,000 beedis recently on Kerala Dinesh Beedi.

Frauds/Thefts/Dacoities in Banks

10438. SHRI R. P. SARANGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount involved in (i) Frauds, (ii) Thefts, (iii) dacoities, and (iv) misappropriation covering the period from the year 1978 to 1982 concerning the branches of State Bank of India—Nagpur and Vidarbha Region ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): According to the information furnished by the State Bank of India, there have been no thefts or dacoities in its branches at Nagpur and Vidarbha Region. However, disclosure of details of frauds, in respect of individual banks, is not in public interest. Information relating to frauds in the State Bank Group, in the last five years, is indicated below :

Year	No. of frauds	Amount involved (Rs. in crores)
1977	243	1.99
1978	243	0.84
1979	274	6.60
1980	439	1.38
1981	127	0.64

(upto 31-3-81)

Note : (i) The term "bank frauds" generally covers instances of misrepresentation, breach of trust, manipulation of books of accounts, fraudulent encashment of instruments like cheques, drafts and bills of ex-

change, unauthorised handling of securities charged to banks, misfeasance, embezzlement, theft, misappropriation of funds, conversion of property, cheating, shortages, irregularities, etc.

- (ii) All cases of frauds reported by banks irrespective of the amount involved are included in the statement. The total amount involved in these frauds not necessarily represent the amount of loss to banks.

Opening of Branch Office of S.B.I. at Bangalore Railway Station

10439. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board has suggested to the State Bank of India to open a branch office of S.B.I. at Bangalore Railway Station ; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the S.B.I. in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) The Railway Board have reported that they have not suggested to the State Bank of India to open a branch at Bangalore Railway Station.

(b) Does not arise.

Pension Relief Granted to Pensioners

10440. SHRI AJIT BAG : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in spite of the assurance given on the floor of the House more than once for prompt