

(ii) Projecting the performance, competence and capabilities of Indian consultancy services through various sources such as brochures, folders, films, etc.

(iii) Sponsoring exclusive consultancy tours to various countries having potential for export of such services. This year one consultancy team to Saudi Arabia, Libya and Iraq is being sponsored.

(iv) Inviting buyers of consultancy services from overseas countries and organising meetings with various Indian consultancy organisations and visits to their offices and project sites completed.

(v) Organising meetings with various visiting dignitaries, Indian Ambassadors visiting New Delhi, Ambassadors being posted to the countries of their accreditation, organising seminars, workshops, etc.

In addition, the Government is also giving grants-in-aid by way of Marketing Development Assistance to eligible consultancy organisations for consultancy services for undertaking market study abroad.

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Himachal Pradesh

375. PROF. NARAIN

SHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 10511 on 30th April, 1982 regarding opening of branches of nationalised banks in Himachal Pradesh and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the State Government regarding the opening of branches of the nationalised banks in Himachal Pradesh have since been received for the year 1982-83;

(b) if so, the names of the places recommended by the State Government for this purpose, district-wise;

(c) whether the branches have since been sanctioned and the names of the banks concerned for each place; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the likely date by which they would be sanctioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Check in price rise and inflation

376. SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that 15 per cent increase in coal prices is the inescapable outcome of Government's failure to contain inflation and check the price rise generally; and

(b) if so, his reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The recent increase in coal prices is in line with the Government's policy to improve financial viability of the producing units. There has been a continued improvement in the price situation. The annual rate of inflation in terms of the Wholesale Price Index (1970-71—100) has declined from 16.7 per cent in 1980-81 to 2.1 per cent in 1981-82. Despite seasonal pressures in the recent weeks the annual rate of inflation as on week ended June 19, 1982 was 1.8 per cent compared with 12.6 per cent in the corresponding week last year.

Deposit Growth rate in Banks

377. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Reserve Bank of India is worried over the low deposit growth rate in Banks;

(b) what were the growth rates of deposits in the last four years year-wise;

(c) is it a fact that one of the reasons for the low growth rate of deposits is the setting up of lucrative fixed deposit projects by many big companies;

(d) is it also a fact that another reason is the launching of various private institutions for getting money from the public on seemingly lucrative terms; and

(e) what is the Government's reaction to the projects referred to in parts (c) and (d) above?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (e): Data regarding deposit growth of scheduled commercial banks during the last few years are set out below:

	Amount (Rs. crores)	Growth Rate %
June 1978 . . .	23313	..
June 1979 . . .	28672	23.0
June 1980 . . .	33377	16.4
June 1981 . . .	39927	19.6
June 1982 (upto 18-6-1982)	44726	12.0

The Government and the Reserve Bank of India are keeping a close watch on recent trends in deposit growth. It is too early to assess whether these trends will persist or whether they represent short-term variations. The scheme for fixed deposits by private companies has been in operation for some time, and it cannot be concluded that deceleration in the rate of deposit growth in the last few months is necessarily because of the existence of this scheme.

The regulations, which regulate the deposits of the non-banking non-financial companies, stipulate ceilings on the quantum of deposits with reference to owned funds of the companies, the tenure of deposits etc. The placement of their saving by the people with different organisations in the Private Sector is a matter of individual preference and a contract between them

and these organisations. However, the public deposits taken by the non-banking companies are taken note of by banks when such companies approach the banks for working capital credit assistance.

Proposed to Review new Import Policy

378. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA
MADHUKAR:

SHRI SURYA NARAIN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the new import policy; and

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). The Import policy is reviewed in respect of items for which representations are received suggesting change. This is a continuous process. There is no proposal to make any general review as such of the new import policy.

Flower Exports

379. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state what was the value of flower exports (including seed and plant) from India during 1980 and 1981 State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): The value of flower exports (including plants and bulbs) from India is given below for 1979-80 and 1980-81.

(Value : Thousand Rs.)

	1979-80	1980-81
1. Outflow rs and buds as ornament .	1261	842
2. Flowering plants	639	942
3. Bulb Horticultural	260	665
TOTAL .	2160	2449

Export statistics are not maintained State-wise.