

the State Bank Group and the twenty Nationalised Banks could mobilise additional deposits worth Rs. 850 crores while the said deposits in the same period during last year were of Rs. 2493 crores;

(c) if so, the reasons for this fall in deposits; and

(d) what measures are being taken to attract more deposits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d) Provisional data show that the deposits of all Scheduled Commercial Banks increased by Rs. 850 crores (1.9 per cent) during the first five months of 1982 as compared to an increase of Rs. 2493 crores (6.8 per cent) during the corresponding period of 1981.

The rate of growth in bank deposits is influenced by a combination of factors and short-term variations in the rate of growth of deposits can occur from time to time. It is too early to assess whether the deceleration in deposit growth in the last few months will persist, and if so what are the reasons thereof.

With effect from 1-3-1982, the Reserve Bank of India have raised interest on short and medium term deposits. Government have also raised the ceiling of income tax exempt income from specified financial assets, including bank deposits, from the earlier level of Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000 per annum. Further additional income upto Rs. 2000 by way of interest from bank deposits of more than one year's maturity has also been exempted from income tax. Banks have also been asked to devote greater attention to mobilising savings of the people through formulation of innovative schemes suited to the requirements of different categories of savers. These measures are expected to assist banks in mobilising deposits.

Production and Export of Opium

5306. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of opium produced in the previous year;

(b) the quantity of opium exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the same period;

(c) names of major importing countries of raw opium; and

(d) the policy of Government in regard to expansion of opium poppy cultivation in the country and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) The total quantity of opium produced during the crop year 1981-82 was about 890 tonnes at 90 per cent consistence.

(b) The quantity of opium exported during 1981-82 was 584.7 tonnes and foreign exchange earned therefrom as Rs. 21.5 crores (provisionally).

(c) The major importing countries of raw opium are U.S.A., U.S.S.R., U.K., France and Japan.

(d) Our exports of opium have declined on account of stiff competition from poppy straw and its concentrate and the over supply of opiate raw materials in the world. This has led to accumulation of stocks of opium in the country. In these circumstances, it is not possible to allow any expansion of opium poppy cultivation.

Looting of Money from Bank of India Branch in 24 Parganas District, West Bengal

5307. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the press reports appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 22nd July, 1982 wherein it has been stated

that Rs. 1.88 lakh was looted from the Bank of India Branch functioning in 24 Paraganas Distt. of West Bengal;

(b) if so, what are the details of the incident; and

(c) whether any action has since been taken by Government in regard thereto and if so, what?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Bank of India has reported that on 21-7-82, at about 1.25 PM, five persons entered their Rishabi Branch, 24 Parganas (West Bengal) and at revolver point looted cash amounting to Rs. 1,15,422/- and jewellery valued at Rs. 72,979/-. The bank has already lodged a complaint with the police and the investigation is in progress.

Import of Partially and Fully Oriented Polyester Filament Yarn

5308. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 18th July, 1981, the Textile Commissioner of Bombay issued a press note allowing import of partially and fully oriented polyester filament yarn by cotton textile mills which was previously allowed to units having licence under 23(5) of Schedule 1 of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951; and

(b) whether the approval of the Government of India is taken in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Polyester Filament yarn has been on OGL for actual users since 78-79. Actual user include artsilk weaving units, cotton mills and independent crimpers, partially oriented yarn was placed on OGL under the Import Policy for 81-82.

Textile Commissioner being the sponsoring authority under the Import Trade Control Policy issued a clarification on 18th July, 1981 to the effect that all cotton mills were actual users for Partially Oriented Yarn also. Textile Commissioner issued the clarifications by virtue of his being the sponsoring authority.

India's Opposition for Creating Alternative Lending Proposal by I.D.A.

5309. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has strongly opposed the World Banks proposal to restructure the International Development Agency by creating an alternative lending proposal;

(b) if so, the main reasons for opposition; and

(c) to what extent India's views has been accepted by them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Although no formal proposal has been made by the World Bank for restructuring IDA, some tentative suggestions have been mooted for differentiating between countries in regard to terms and conditions of IDA assistance during the seventh replenishment. India has opposed such suggestions on the ground that they are not based on any objective criteria and would, therefore, be unfair and discriminatory.

Transfer of Officers of SC/ST Communities by Syndicate Bank

5310. SHRI HIRA LAL R. PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe communities are being posted/transferred to far away places from their native places by the management of Syndicate Bank at the time of their recruitment or promotions;