

inadvertently, or through over-sight, left behind un-attended or unsecured by the customers, or which are otherwise found in the bank or vault premises. In such cases banks generally try to restore the articles where possible to the concerned customers. In respect of articles which remain un-claimed, it is understood that the Indian Banks' Association has provided certain guidelines to its member-banks. Each case is dealt with by the concerned bank keeping in view legal and other requirements.

No return has been prescribed by Government/Reserve Bank of India for banks to report such cases. The information sought for in parts (b) and (c) of the question is not, therefore, readily available. The time and effort that will be involved in collecting such information from branches and offices of commercial banks throughout the country, may not be commensurate with the results intended to be achieved.

ZONAL OFFICES OF N.T.C.

3489. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of zonal offices of National Textile Corporation;

(b) whether the regional officers of NTC are selected from amongst technical services of textile industries or any other services cadre; and

(c) if not, the reasons why administrative officers are posted/deputed to such technical jobs ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) With a view to ensuring effective management of the NTC mills on decentralised basis, NTC has formed nine subsidiary corporations located at different parts of the country. Each subsidiary corporation is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of Chairman-cum-Managing Director and Functional Directors well versed in various disciplines of textile industry.

ADVANCES BY NON-NATIONALISED BANKS TO PRIORITY AND NEGLECTED SECTORS

3490. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that advances by the non-nationalised banks to the priority and neglected sector are negligible;

(b) if so the reasons of the low percentage of the advances made by the bank in the said sector; and

(c) whether Lakshmi Commercial Bank Limited has allocated funds for advances in this sector in accordance with the prescribed norms ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) According to the comparative data furnished by the Reserve Bank of India advances made by non-nationalised banks to priority sectors were 22 per cent of their total advances as at the end of June, 1981 as against 37 per cent in the case of nationalised banks. In the case of Lakshmi Commercial Bank Ltd. the advances made to priority sectors were 23 per cent of its total advances as at the end of June, 1981. The performance of the banks in this regard is reviewed by the Reserve Bank from time to time and they have been advised to make all out efforts to increase their advances to priority sectors to 40 per cent of their aggregate advances by 1985.

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS AS A FREE PORT

3492. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of a detailed report submitted by TDA with a specific proposal for development of Andaman and Nicobar Islands as Free Port;

(b) if so what are the salient recommendations;

(c) whether Government have received representations from the Islands to have a free trade zone in these islands if so, when and from whom and what action has been taken; and