

(a) whether it is a fact that Technical Assistants (VT) of Joint Cipher Bureau have requested the authorities to upgrade their pay scales at par with those of Technical Assistants (VT) working in other Ministries of Government of India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the authorities have also received this sort of information from these Ministries/offices of Government of India; and

(c) if so, when the authorities propose to upgrade the pay-scales of Technical Assistants (VT) at par with their counterparts working in other Ministries/offices of Government of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some information is yet to be received.

(c) The upgradation of the pay scale of Technical Assistants (VT) would be considered on the receipt of all relevant information in consultation with the concerned departments. It might be required to the Fourth Pay Commission being set up by the Government.

**Revision of Pay Scales of Junior Accountants Working Under Controller of Accounts in the Ministry of External Affairs**

7349. SHRI CHITAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that an arbitration Board had been appointed by Government to give its award regarding revision of pay scales of Junior Accountants working under the Controller of

Accounts in the Ministry of External Affairs, etc. from the grade of Rs. 330-560 to the grade of Rs. 425-800;

(b) if so, what is the decision of the Arbitration Board and by what date it is to be implemented; and

(c) if the Arbitration Board has not so far given the decision the reasons therefore and by what date the Arbitration Board is likely to give its decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

**New Branches of SBI and Other Nationalised Banks in Gujarat**

7350. SHRI MOHANLAL PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of new branches of the State Bank of India and other nationalised banks opened in Gujarat State during the year 1982-83;

(b) the number of these branches opened in rural areas; and

(c) what is the proposal for opening more new branches of these banks in Gujarat State during the year 1983-84?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that during the period from 1-1-82 to 31-12-82, the commercial banks opened 86 branches in Gujarat. Bank Groupwise/Population Groupwise details are as under :-

	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban	Metro-politan	Total
State Bank of India	8	2	2	1	13
Associated Bank of S.B.I.	8	3	1	—	12
Nationalised Banks	25	7	6	4	52
Regional Rural Banks	15	2	—	—	17
Other Indian Commercial Banks	—	—	2	—	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>86</b>

(c) As at the end of December 1982, the commercial banks were holding 362 licences/authorisations for opening branches in the State of Gujarat. Out of these, 323 authorisations relate to rural centres. The banks are expected to open branches in a phased manner by the end of March 1985.

#### Export of Tobacco and Tobacco Products to Rupee Trade Countries

7351. SHRI N. R. SHEJWALKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the value of tobacco and tobacco products exported to rupee trade countries during the last three years, year wise and country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

Export of tobacco and tobacco products to rupee trade countries during the years 1979-80 to 1981-82 are given below :-

(Value Rs. in Crores)

#### EXPORTS DURING

	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82(Prov.)
U.S.S.R.	31.36	57.80	84.24
Czechs- lovakia	1.16	0.51	0.63
Nepal	0.73	1.48	Not available

(Source : Tobacco Board)

#### Smuggling of Books

7352. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases have been brought to the notice of Government regarding the value of books smuggled into our country and out of our country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Customs authorities remain generally vigilant in this regard.

#### Negotiation by Representatives of LIC Management with Trade Unions in LIC

7353. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Finance Minister and representatives of LIC management had negotiations with the representatives of trade unions in LIC on 24th and 25th March, 1983;

(b) if so, what were the issues that were discussed during these negotiations; and

(c) what were the results of these negotiations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) At the request of the representatives of Class III and Class IV employees of the LIC, the Finance Minister met them on 24th and 25th March, 1983. The employees expressed their views in respect of various aspects of the functioning of the LIC and also raised demands regarding their emoluments, The Finance Minister gave them a bearing and advised them to identify and concretise their demands and refer them to the LIC Management for further action.

#### ऊन का आयात

7354. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :