

Reduction regional imbalance in the availability of bank credit is an integral part of the Government's accepted policy. Towards this objective the banks have been asked to endeavour to increase credit deployment in the States where the credit deployment levels are low by indentifying and extending assistance to small ventures. Banks have also been asked to step up the share of priority sectors in their aggregate credit to the level of 40 per cent by March 1985. To ensure increased flow of credit in rural and semi-urban areas, banks have been asked to attain a credit deposit ratio of 60 per cent in rural and semi-urban branches. Banks have also begun to evolve district credit plans for facilitating coordinated action by all the agencies concerned at the district level in the implementation of development programmes involving credit assistance to the beneficiaries. State Government have also been asked to strengthen their institutional infrastructure to facilitate routing of bank credit to identified beneficiaries under specific schemes for the weaker sections. These measures are expected to contribute to a reduction in the regional imbalance in the deployment of bank credit.

#### Secret Libya-Pakistan deal on Atom Bomb

1127. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a secret Libya-Pakistan deal on atom bomb as published in "The Times of India" Delhi, dated 18 January, 1983; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b) . Government have seen the press report. There is, however, no confirmed information on such a deal.

#### Reconstitution of Bureau of Public Enterprises

1128. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration any proposal to reconstitute the Bureau of Public Enterprises giving wider representation to exports in various disciplines; and

(b) if so, steps already taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAT-TABHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Report on Bureau of Public Enterprises submitted by the Expert Committee on Public Enterprises which was set up under the Chairmanship of Member (Industry), Planning Commission. The Expert Committee made certain recommendations for strengthening the organisational structure and the professional resources of the Bureau so that it can further improve its effectiveness". The recommendations of the Committee are being examined by the Government.

#### Purchase of Shares of India Cement from Public Sector Institutions by I.T.C.

1129. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ITC (Imperial Tobacco) has purchased a large chunk of shares of India Cement from the public sector institutions;

(b) if so, the names of the public sector institutions which sold their shares and other relevant details regarding the price, etc.;

(c) whether it is not a policy deviation of the public sector financial Institutions; and

(d) if so, the reasons for allowing the sale in this case?