

it has not received any complaint against the Head of the Regional office of Calcutta.

Branches of Export and Import Bank

9865. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up an Export-Import Bank in the country, if so, the number and locations of its branches which are functioning in the country ;

(b) the main functions of the bank ;

(c) how far it is successful ;

(d) the detail of the facilities are being given to importers and exporters ; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to establish more branches of this bank in the country and abroad, if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Export Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) was established on January 1, 1982 under the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981. The head office of Exim Bank is at Bombay and as on date the bank has two representative offices at New Delhi and Calcutta.

(b) The Exim Bank was set up to facilitate, promote and finance external trade of the country and to function as the principal financial institution for coordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing export and import of goods and services.

(c) The operations of Exim Bank have been quite satisfactory as reflected in the lending operations of the Bank. Comparing the overall financing activities of Exim Bank in 1983 with those of last year (March-December 1982), total commitments, sanctions and utilisations of funded assistance in 1983 have registered growth rates of 7%, 22% and 15% respectively. Direct sanction of financial assistance to exporters during 1983 has increased by 41% as compared to previous year.

(d) Exim Bank's lending programmes are at the moment directed towards promotion of Indian exports. The assistance extended

by Exim Bank are both in the nature of funded assistance as well as non-funded assistance. Lending programmes of funded assistance consist of direct financial assistance to exporters, overseas investment financing, financing for exports of technology and consultancy services, pre-shipment credit, overseas buyer's credit, lines of credit, refinance of export credit, export bills re-discounting and relending facility to banks abroad. Non-funded assistance in the form of Guarantees is also extended by Exim Bank. Exim Bank participates with commercial banks in India in the issuance of guarantees in foreign currencies on behalf of Indian exporters contractors in favour of overseas importers/employers and banks. These guarantees, are in the nature of bid bonds, advance payment and performance guarantees, retention money guarantees and guarantees for raising finance abroad.

(e) At present Exim Bank proposes to open a representative office in India at Madras and to open three representative offices out-side India at Manila, Abidjan and Washington.

Opening of New Branches of Punjab National Bank in Orissa

9866. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All Orissa Punjab National Bank Employees Union has charged the Bank Management with neglecting Orissa in its expansion and developmental programme ;

(b) if so, the steps which Ministry proposes to take to set matters right ; and

(c) the particulars of new branches of the P.N.B. which are likely to be opened in Orissa during the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Punjab National Bank has reported that All Orissa Punjab National Bank Employees Union had been demanding opening of a separate Regional Office of the bank for Orissa at Bhubaneswar as also opening of more branches in the State.

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India has

reported that Punjab National Bank has only limited representation in Orissa and has also no lead responsibility for any District in the State. Out of 13 Districts in Orissa, 12 Districts are covered by Regional Rural Banks. In accordance with the branch licensing policy of Reserve Bank of India, the Regional Rural Banks are given priority in the matter of allotment of unbanked centres identified by the State Government for opening bank offices. Further, while considering allotment of the centres other than those identified by the State Government, banks having adequate representation in the area are given preference. Accordingly Punjab National Bank has not been allowed any centre in the State for opening offices under the Branch Licensing Policy of April 1982 to March 1985. There is also no proposal for opening of a Regional Office of Punjab National Bank at Bhubaneswar at present.

Financial Assistance to Export Houses by State Bank of India

9867. SHRI BALKRISHNA WASNIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4147 on 16 December, 1983 regarding providing of financial assistance to export houses by State Bank of India and state :

(a) whether the concerned exporters have since submitted detailed proposals for revival of their export credit accounts in response to the call of State Bank of India, Calcutta so that they may boost up export trade ;

(b) whether the same comprises of moratorium of interest, repayment of accumulated debts, further export credit, etc. ; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and action being taken to revive the accounts without entailing further delays so as to enable these exporters to earn valuable foreign exchange and to offer opportunity to repay the debts of the bank steadily without going in for litigation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and to the extent available and permissible under

the rules will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expansion of Trade between India and Hungary

9868. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand areas under cooperation with Hungary during 1984-85 ;

(b) if so, the areas identified to expand trade relations with Hungary ; and

(c) the details of the programme of Government in this regard during 1984 85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) to (c) Effort are continuously being made to promote India's trade and economic cooperation with Hungary with the twin objective of effecting growth with stability in trade turnover and diversification into new areas. With this end in view, meetings of joint Commission, Permanent Working Group, Joint Business Council etc. are periodically held and action is taken on the conclusions arrived at in these meetings. Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Trade is due to take place in May, 1984.

Provision of Financial Assistance to Exporters of Marine Products

9869. SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA :

SHRI GUFRAZ AZAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3961 on 16th December, 1983 regarding boosting of export of marine products and state :

(a) whether Marine Products Export Development Authority has now received several representations/complaints from exporters of shrimps/marine products of Calcutta regarding non-availability of export packing credit assistance from State Bank of India and also other banking difficulties being faced by them in boosting up export business ;

(b) if so, facts thereof and action being