

and the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). While no representation appears to have been received by the Government from the North Malabar Gramin Bank Employees Union, the Chairman of the above named Gramin Bank, is reported to have received a list of demands of the said Union which included creation of promotional avenues, regular payscale for messengers ; cash allowance and key holding allowance to employees working in cash departments ; fixed travelling allowance ; staff loans upto Rs. 5000 ; rectification of payscales of Field Supervisors ; discontinuance of training system ; higher bonus for 1982 etc. It is for the Management of the Gramin Bank to consider the rationale, justification and admissibility of the demands in the light of the provisions of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 and Staff Service Regulations of the Gramin Bank or other relevant legislation and Government's policy guidelines on the question.

#### North Korea to Buy Iron Ore from India

3274. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether North Korea has expressed its keenness to buy iron ore from India ;

(b) if so, the total tonnes of iron ore worth what amount is proposed to be supplied to North Korea during 1984-85 ;

(c) the name of the port through which shipment is proposed to be made ; and

(d) the value of the export proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Discussions in this regard including port of shipment and sale price are expected to take place in the coming months,

#### I A. to extend services in Eastern Region during 1984

3275. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines had considered a proposal to extend its services to various places in the Eastern Region during the year 1984 ; and

(b) if so, the places of Eastern Region likely to be covered ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Demand for withdrawal of ban on Export of C.T.C. Tea

3276. SHRI PIYUSH TIRKI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Tea Industry has sought an end to the ban on export of CTC tea imposed on 24th December, 1983 ;

(b) if so, the reasons for demanding the withdrawal of such ban ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) to (c). Government's decision to impose a ban on export of CTC teas has been generally welcomed by tea industry circles. However, there have recently been some representations seeking the removal of the ban Order on the grounds that prices of these teas have declined considerably since the Order was imposed.

Government is constantly monitoring the situation with respect to both prices and availability of CTC teas.