

(d) how long will it take to finalise this scheme and to introduce it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that a proposal for audit of accounts of non-corporate borrowers enjoying credit limits of rupees ten lakhs and over from banking system is under their consideration.

(b) and (c) The proposal is to get books of accounts of such borrowers audited by Chartered Accountants, and also to ask for balance sheet, profit and loss accounts, audited reports etc. The proposal is still under examination and details are yet to be finalised.

(d) Reserve Bank of India is examining the matter and final decision will take sometime.

Formulation of branch expansion policy for Regional Rural Banks

1934. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have under consideration any plan to formulate a viable and action-oriented branch expansion policy for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) ;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof to strengthen the organisational set-up of RRBs ;

(c) whether the branch control mechanism of RRBs, is yet to stabilise and the RRBs, concerned are not in a position to control the large number of branches which has crossed the 100 mark in some cases ; and

(d) the number of Regional Rural Banks in Orissa and whether it is proposed to open some more branches in the tribal areas of that state ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) In terms of the current branch expansion

policy, Regional Rural Banks have been accorded a primacy in their areas of operation in the matter of opening of branches at unbanked rural centres. This approach combined with need based licensing of branches of bigger commercial banks in each Block is expected to meet the banking requirements of the people in a larger measure.

(c) While the organisational structure of the Regional Rural Banks is still evolving, in specific cases appropriate and necessary measures, including bifurcation of established banks, would be taken to ensure proper control and supervision of branches by the Head Offices of the Regional Rural Banks.

(d) There are nine Regional Rural Banks in Orissa. Reserve Bank have reported that as at the end of December 1983, these banks had 546 branches, in addition to 829 branches of other banks. All banks together had 277 licences pending with them as at the end of December 1983 for opening branches in Orissa.

Scholarship given by Tea Board for the education of Plantation Workers

1935. SHRI PIYUSH TIRKI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tea Board provides scholarship for the education of the children of the plantation workers;

(b) if so, the details of the scholarship;

(c) the total number of students benefited by the scholarships given by the Tea Board since 1980, yearwise and category-wise for primary secondary, higher secondary, under graduate, Post graduate studies, including medical, engineering degree courses, etc.

(d) the details of the students who were given financial assistance for study abroad;