

are permitted to accompany the Chief Minister/other VIPs, exchange is released as per the prescribed Govt. scales. In addition, hotel accommodation is also arranged by our Missions.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Decline in Civil Construction Contracts by Indian Firms in Foreign Countries

2875. SHRI S.A. DORAI SEBASTIAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the responsibility of promoting civil construction experts has been shifted from the Engineering Export Promotion Council to the newly created Overseas Construction Council ; and

(b) if so, whether this has led to the screening Committee of his Ministry becoming inactive which has contributed to the general decline in the number of civil construction contracts by Indian firms in foreign countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. In order to promote exports of construction projects, a separate Export Promotion Council called the Overseas Construction Council of India has been established.

(b) No, Sir. The work of the Screening Committee, which was earlier functioning in the EEPC, has been transferred to the OCCI as the latter is now looking after civil construction exports.

#### Opening of New Branches by Madhubani Regional Rural Bank

2876. SHRI BHOGENDR A JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the new branches to be opened by Madhubani Regional Rural Bank during 1984 and the time schedule for opening of its branch at Banipatti ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POJARY) : Reserve Bank of India have reported that as at the end of March 1984, the Madhubani Kshetriya Gramin Bank had been issued authorisations/licences for the following

seven centres :

- |              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Harinagar | 2. Sugauna       |
| 3. Khajedih  | 4. Garatol       |
| 5. Deep      | 6. Usrahi Deodha |
| 7. Benipatti |                  |

Branches at the centres for which authorisations/licences are issued by the Reserve Bank are opened as soon as the preliminaries are completed. The Gramin Bank has, however, been advised to expeditiously implement the licences in hand.

#### Trade Agreement between India and Soviet Union

2877. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for a long term trade agreement between India and the Soviet Union for the supply of cotton from India in exchange of textile machinery from the Soviet Union ; and

(b) if so, to what extent this agreement will help in revival of sick textile mills in India and resolve Soviet Union's problem of balance of payments with India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Overtime paid to Indian Airlines Staff

2878. SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of overtime allowance paid to (i) engineering staff, and (ii) other staff of Indian Airlines at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Hyderabad and Madras separately for the period between 1980-81 ; and

(b) year-wise and category-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.