

captioned "Banking services poorer since take over say-firms" appearing in 'Hindustan Standard' dated the 13th February, 1973; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). Government have seen the press report referred to and are aware that there is scope for improvement in the services rendered by the nationalised banks. It has been the constant endeavour of the banks to take appropriate measures to improve the quality of services to their customers. Banking Commission have made certain recommendations for improving and modernising the operative methods and procedures of commercial banks and these recommendations are under the active consideration of Government.

#### Increase in cases of Bank Frauds

4416 SHRI B. S. BHAURA:

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of bank frauds increased during 1971 and 1972 and if so, the actual number of frauds reported in these two years and the total amount of money involved in these frauds;

(b) whether any of the offenders have been convicted in these cases, if so, the number and names of persons convicted; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such frauds in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). Information to the extent possible is

being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India have reported that in terms of the instructions issued by them, all banks are required to send a report about all frauds perpetrated in their offices as soon as such frauds come to their notice. On going through the *modus operandi* of the frauds and the laxities in observing the usual internal controls which facilitate the perpetration of most of the frauds, the banks concerned are advised of the safeguards and precautions to be taken to avoid the recurrence of such frauds. The Reserve Bank of India also issue instructions to banks from time to time regarding precautions and safeguards to be taken in regard to various types of transactions to avoid perpetration of frauds. Recently, the Reserve Bank of India have taken a study of the systems and procedures obtaining in banks with the immediate objective of identifying areas of deficiencies and to suggest, wherever necessary the introduction of revised systems and procedure and improvement upon the existing ones and to make suggestions to assist the bank in finding ways of rectifying the various features and deficiencies revealed by the study. Though the study is not yet complete, in the light of the findings of the study so far undertaken, the Reserve Bank of India have advised the commercial banks of certain precautions to be taken in regard to balancing of transactions relating to clearing of cheques drafts, etc, as well as reconciliation of inter-branch accounts.

#### Steps to curb speculation in Groundnut Oil

4417. SHRI B. S. BHAURA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the speculators who were operating in the oil seeds market have now turned to groundnut oil from Castor

seed as trading in the latter is subjected to curbs;

(b) whether as a result of these speculative activities the prices of the groundnut oil have been on the increase in recent months; and

(c) if so, whether Government are taking any steps to curb speculation in groundnut oil?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir. The various curbs imposed on speculative trading in regard to groundnut oil are much more severe than in respect of castorseed. All forward trading in groundnut oil is banned.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Rumania's offer for Financial Assistance to Bihar

4418. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rumanian Government have expressed readiness to give financial help to Bihar for its development;

(b) if so, the fields in which Government of India propose to ask for their collaboration and

(c) the reasons for delay in taking decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). Offers of assistance from foreign governments can be entertained only by the Central Government, which takes decision as to their usefulness and acceptability in keeping with overall priorities of national development as embodied in the Five Year Plans. We understand that during a courtesy call on Bihar Government Officials, the Rumanian Ambassador had stated, in general terms, that his Government

would be happy to participate in coal-based and aluminium industries in India, including those that might be located in Bihar. No specific proposals were made.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Loans granted to Tatas, Birlas and Sahu Jain groups for setting up industries in other Countries

4419. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have granted loans to Tatas, Birlas and Sahu Jain group of Industries for establishing industries in other countries;

(b) if so, the amount of loans advanced to them; and

(c) the reasons for granting loans for establishing industries outside the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

दिल्ली-मुजफ्फरपुर विमान सेवा को पूर्णिया और भागलपुर तक बढ़ाने का प्रस्ताव :

4420. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली-मुजफ्फरपुर विमान सेवा को पूर्णिया और भागलपुर तक बढ़ाने का प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पूर्णिया और भागलपुर के लिए कब से सेवा चालू की जायेगी; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?