

which had to be followed by Designated TADA Courts. Lapse of erstwhile TADA does not create any difficulty in disposal of pending proceedings because of Saving Clause, Section 1 (4) of the erstwhile TADA. Pending proceedings can be disposed off as if the Act had not lapsed. However, no new case of proceeding can be instituted.

#### Loans to Farm Sector

5828. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to nationalised banks for fixing the percentage of loan to be given to agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the agriculture sector has received the loan from banks on the basis of fixed percentage and in accordance with its economic requirements;

(d) if so, the economic requirements of agriculture sector during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 and the percentage of loan provided by banks during the said period; and

(e) the additional steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the loan facility to the agriculture sector to meet the economic requirement?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The stipulated target fixed for Lending by the Commercial banks to the Agriculture Sector is 18% of Net Bank Credit.

(c) to (e) The percentage of agricultural advances to the net bank credit by the Commercial Banks during the years 1994-95 to 1996-97 are given as under:

Years	Priority Sector Lending Target for Agriculture	%age of Agricultural Advances to net Bank Credit
1994-95	18%	13.91
1995-96	18%	14.29
1996-97	18%	N.A.

To step up the flow of credit to the agriculture sector, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the National Bank for

Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have taken following steps:

- (i) The commercial banks have been asked to increase the credit flow to agriculture by 25% during the year 1996-97, as compared to the previous year;
- (ii) Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) which are partly meeting the credit requirements of small and marginal farmers in the rural areas are being given recapitalisation support;
- (iii) Banks have been advised to set up specialised agricultural branches in each State to exclusively deal with high-tech agricultural advances;
- (iv) Banks have been advised to extend cash credit facilities for meeting composite credit requirements of farmers having good track record;
- (v) With a view to improving the access of small farmers to institutional credit, NABARD has advised Co-operative banks to earmark funds in favour of small, marginal and economically weak farmers; and
- (vi) NABARD has also advised banks that the credit requirements of those small and marginal farmers (generally upto 10% and upto 20% in Eastern and North-Eastern region) should be met in full.

#### Godown Facilities

5829. SMT. BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAJ CHIKHALIA:  
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scheme for wet dates (Kherok) preservation for a long time; and

(b) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for preservation of agriculture product for consumption in the country and for export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Although no specific project on preservation of dates have been taken up by this Ministry, these can be preserved by conventional methods like drying, preservation in sugar syrup and low temperature storage, etc.

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries had operated various Plan Schemes in the Eighth Plan for the promotion of food processing industries, including fruits and vegetable

processing in the country. Similar Schemes are proposed to be implemented during the Ninth Plan also.

#### Afforestation around Lakes

5830. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to undertake afforestation drive around some major lakes in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these lakes and the states where these lakes are located; and

(c) the details of the fund allocation made to the respective states for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Under the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP), 11 out of 21 identified urban lakes were proposed for conservation under phase I. Catchment conservation including afforestation around the lake formed a part of the pre-feasibility reports for these lakes, namely:

1. Sukhna Lake	Chandigarh
2. Dal Lake	Jammu & Kashmir
3. Kodaikanal Lake	Tamil Nadu
4. Ooty Lake	Tamil Nadu
5. Bhoj Lake	Madhya Pradesh
6. Sagar Lake	Madhya Pradesh
7. Hussain Sagar Lake	Andhra Pradesh
8. Powai Lake	Maharashtra
9. Udaipur Lake System	Rajasthan
10. Nainital Lake	Uttar Pradesh
11. Rabiqdra Sarobar Lake	West Bengal

Besides this the following 18 waterbodies in the country have been identified by the Ministry for intensive conservation under the scheme on conservation and management of Wetlands. Afforestation is one of the integral component of this scheme.

Sl.No.	Name of the Wetland	State
1	2	3
1.	Kolleru	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Wular	Jammu & Kashmir
3.	Tso Morari	Jammu & Kashmir
4.	Chilka	Orissa

1	2	3
5.	Loktak	Manipur
6.	Sambhar	Rajasthan
7.	Sasthamkorta	Kerala
8.	Asthmudi	Kerala
9.	Nalsarovar	Gujarat
10.	Harike	Punjab
11.	Kanjli	Punjab
12.	Ropar	Punjab
13.	Ujni	Maharashtra
14.	Renuka	Himachal Pradesh
15.	Ponodam	Himachal Pradesh
16.	Chandratal	Himachal Pradesh
17.	Kabar	Bihar
18.	Deepar Beel	Assam

(c) The National Lake Conservation Plan has been proposed for inclusion in the IXth Plan.

#### Worlds Bank's Assessment

5831. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has assessed the functioning of Planning Commission in regard to monitoring of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The following observations were made in the World Bank country Study titled India - 5 Years of Stabilisation and Reform and the Challenges Ahead (1996):

"Weaknesses in the planning process should also be addressed. Reform of the Planning Commission's budgetary guidelines and procedures would encourage states to undertake structural budgetary reforms to enhance their