[English]

Opening of Urban Co-operative Banks in Gujarat

5814. SHRIG.K. SHEKHADA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy being adopted/followed by the Reserve Bank of India in granting licences to the new urban co-operative banks:

(b) whether Government are aware that urban co-operative banks are required to be opened in Gujarat for the speedy development of co-operative sector and rec removal of poverty; and

(c) whether Government propose to liberalise the licensing policy with regard to opening of urban co-operative banks in the States like Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). In the State of Gujarat, 285 Urban Co-operative Banks are functioning. In terms of the licensing policy formulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), a new urban bank is allowed to be established in a district which is devoid of urban banking facilities. The policy is implemented in a flexible manner so as not to preclude organisation of an additional bank in the same district provided inter-alia the existing bank has achieved viability norms and there is requisite non-agricultural business potential for the subsequent bank to become a viable unit in a given timeframe. The emphasis of the policy is to fill gaps in districts without urban banks and to consolidate the working of existing urban bank on sound and healthy lines without undue proliferation keeping in view the overall banking development in the public sector as well as cooperative sector.

[Translation]

Telecast of Bhojpuri Films on Doordarshan

5815. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of "Bhojpuri films" telecast on Doordarshan during last one year;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to telecast "Bhojpuri films" more frequently; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Two Bhojpuri feature films were telecast on Doordarshan during the last one year (on 1.4, 1989 and 31.3.1989).

(b) and (c). Feature films in various regional languages/dialects are telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi, and its linked transmitters on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month. More frequent telecast of Bhojpuri feature films would depend upon the availability of suitable films, keeping also in view the principle of rotation among various languages/dialects.

Assistance to Opium Cultivators in UP

5816. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a complaint from farmers regarding loss of opium cultivation in Uttar Pradesh due to unseasonal rain and insects etc;

(b) if so, the extent of financial assistance proposed to be provided to these farmers; (c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government will reduce the average quota of opium yield due to loss by rain; and

(e) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). While deciding the general conditions for grant of licence for poppy cultivation, the extent of damage suffered by the poppy crop in the preceding year is kept in view and appropriate relief is provided in terms of relaxation of gualifying yield only.

Royalty Rate on Iron Ore in M.P.

5817. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDEL-

WAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

 (a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has requested Union Government to increase royalty rate of iron ore in that state; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUS-TICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have suggested rate of royalty for iron ore as given below:—

Existing rate of royalty per tonne in Rupees Suggested rates per tonne in Rupees

Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
1	2	3	4
1.50	6.00	4.00	14.00

[English]

Imports under Rupee Payment System

5818. SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some country from Rupee payment area imports articles from India and re-export them to general currency areas then depriving India of valuable foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). As per the terms and conditions of the Trade and Payments Agreement concluded by India with each of the Rupee Payment Partner countries, the goods purchased by each country from the partner country are meant strictly for meeting domestic requirements only and cannot be re-exported. Government is, however, aware that there are at times complaints alleging that exports from India are being diverted by the buying organisations. If any specific instance of violation of the agreement comes to the notice of the Government, it will certainly look into the matter.