

Chief Justice of India is done in every case of transfer/appointment of a Chief Justice.

### Long Term Policy on Tea

5887. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee Constituted by Government to formulate long term policy on tea has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendation of the Committee are as follows:

- to evolve a National Tea Policy;
- to set up a Standing Forum for Policy Planning and co-ordination for tea;
- to set up a Centre for Studies in 'Plantation' management system;
- to devise policies and programmes for argumentation of productive capacities of the tea growing estates and keeping the tea areas in optimum state of productive health;
- rejuvenation and infilling for increasing average yields as one of the medium-term remedies;
- creation of a Tea Replanting Fund;
- to motivate plantations to under-

take time bound larger programme of extension planting through requisite financial backing with attractive incentive packages;

- extension of tea in degraded forest land;
- growing of tea in non-traditional areas for progressive increasing production of tea;
- revision of assistance packages after every three years by the Tea Board and the financial institutions;
- programmed development of small growers sector;
- to strengthen the R & D activities;
- constitution of Regional Advisory Committees for the purpose of planning and development of the industry in the region concerned;
- regions-wise manpower studies be initiated to make an objective assessment of the perspective on supply side vis-a-vis the projected requirements;
- institutionalised forum for centre-state co-ordination;
- review of role of the Tea Board in line with the future requirements of development;
- to evolve a plan and strategy for increasing export volumes, export earnings and for effecting substantial increasing in value added exports;

(c) A Working Group in the Ministry has examined the recommendations of the Committee. The recommendations of the

Working Group have been sent to the Tea Board for their views.

### **Lending Policies of Foreign Banks**

5888. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued any directives to the foreign banks operating in the country to re-orient their lending policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these directives have been implemented by the foreign banks; and

(d) the action taken against those foreign banks, if any, for not following the directives of the RBI?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it had advised all foreign banks operating in India to take their priority sector lending to a level of 10% of their net advances by the end of March, 1989 and to progressively increase the same to 12% and 15% by the end of March, 1990 and March, 1992, respectively. RBI has further reported that 7 of the 21 foreign Banks have achieved the target of 10% stipulated for the end of March, 1989. RBI is constantly following up the matter with those foreign banks which have not complied with the stipulated target.

### **Number of News Papers and Periodicals Published from Kerala**

5889. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newspapers and periodicals published from Kerala as on 31st December, 1989;

(b) the names of newspapers and periodicals in Kerala which were granted registration during 1989; and

(c) the number of applications for registration of newspapers and publications proposed to be published from Kerala and pending before the Registrar of Newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) There are 165 daily newspapers and 1260 periodicals from Kerala in the Live Register of Registrar of Newspapers for India as on 31st December, 1989.

(b) The list of the newspapers and periodicals is given in the attached statement.

(c) 70 applications for registration of newspapers and 180 applications for clearance of titles of new publications proposed to be published from Kerala are pending as on 12.4.1990.