

Authority (MPEDA) on 24th April, 1990.

(b) and (c) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(b) A number of problems had been raised by the exporters including exporters from Orissa. These include:—

- (i) Evolvement of suitable land allotment policy by the State Governments;
- (ii) Provision of adequate reefer sailing facilities at Paradip Port,
- (iii) Supply of adequate prawn seeds to farmers in West Bengal, Orissa etc. in peak production period, and
- (iv) Inclusion of representatives of Orissa exporters in the MPEDA Board,
- (v) Increase in the Replenishment (REP) percentage for marine products exports from 5% as shown in the Import-Export Policy.

(c) Action taken by the Government to solve these problems are:—

- (i) The Chief Ministers of coastal State Governments were requested to expedite evolvement of suitable land allotment policy for prawn farming activity.
- (ii) The case for providing reefer sailing facilities at Paradip was taken up with the Shipping Corporation of India, which did not find it economically viable to provide the same due to inadequate quantum of marine products being exported from Orissa.
- (iii) MPEDA has already taken action to synchronise the production in the Orissa Prawn Hatchery with the actual demand of the farmers.

(iv) The Board of MPEDA had already been reconstituted from November 1989 for a period of 3 years.

(v) Necessary Public Notice had been issued for increasing the REP percentage from 5% to 15% of FOB value of exports.

[Translation]

Loans advanced by Nationalised Banks to Farmers, Artisans and Agricultural Labourers

1502. SHRI CHHITUBHAI DEVJIBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have directed nationalised banks to grant special loans to farmers, rural artisans and agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, the percentage of total loan to be granted under the above category;

(c) the year-wise details of loans granted by the State Bank of India, the Bank of Baroda, the Dena Bank and the Bank of India from 1987 to June, 1990 in Surat district of Gujarat to farmers, artisans and agricultural labourers;

(d) whether the nationalised banks in Surat district were able to achieve the targets assigned to them in regard to loans advanced to above categories if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government will issue any special directive to these banks to fulfil these targets; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Banks have been asked to raise the proportion of their credit to priority sector to 40% of their net bank credit; 18% of the total credit in respect of direct finance extended to agriculture (including allied activities) by March,

1990; and the advances to weaker sections, which includes small and marginal farmers and landless cultivators and artisans, are to reach a level of 10% of total credit of 25 per cent of the priority sector advances;

(c) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) to (f) As mentioned at (a) and (b) above, the banks have to achieve the prescribed targets on an all-India basis; and no district-wise targets are fixed for this purpose. A number of steps have been taken with a view to increase the flow of credit to small and marginal farmers and weaker sections such as concessional rate of interest at 10% per annum, non-compounding of interest on current dues, non-insistence on third party guarantee, or collateral security in respect of loans upto Rs. 10,000. In case of short term crop loans to small farmers, the interest debited is not to exceed the principal amount. In case of crop failure, amount due is re-scheduled over a period of 3 to 5 years and fresh loans are given to farmers.

In view of the above, the question of issuing any special directive, at present, does not arise.

Retiring Judges in High Courts/ Supreme Court

1503. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the post of judges filled during the past six months in High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) the number of judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts due to retire during the next three years as per existing rules;

(c) the number of new posts likely to be created; and

(d) the steps taken or contemplated to fill the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW

& JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Since 1-1-90 till 13-8-90, 93 fresh appointments in the High Courts and one appointment in the Supreme Court have been notified.

(b) From 1-8-90 till 30-6-93, 12 Judges of the Supreme Court and 153 Judges of the High Courts would retire on attaining the age of 65 years and 62 years respectively.

(c) As on 13-8-90, the creation of 83 new posts of Judges/Additional Judges in the High Courts has been agreed to; this is over and above the sanctioned strength of 443 Judges/Additional Judges.

(d) The process of consultation among the constitutional authorities is on for filling up the vacant posts of Judges.

Conditions for Foreign aid for Developmental Projects

1504. DR. BENGALI SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conditions have been laid down in respect of the foreign aid to be provided for various developmental projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the countries from whom grants were received during the last six months for various projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The details regarding terms and conditions of foreign aid to be provided will be determined only after the aid negotiations are finalised with each donor agency.

(c) The details of the countries from whom grants were received during 1989-90 and likely to be received during 1990-91 are given below. Information for the broken part of the financial year is not available.