

**Performance of Indian Banks in London**

1550. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the branches of the Indian banks in London is satisfactory;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the capital adequacy ratio of the above branches is very low as compared to other international banks, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any monitoring of the functioning of these branches is done by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI);

(e) if so, the reasons for not taking corrective measures in time; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the RBI to set right the working of these branches?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (f) At present six Indian banks are operating 33 branches in the United Kingdom. Their total Balance Sheets (excluding contra items) which were Rs. 5098 crores as at the end of December, 1987 aggregated to Rs. 7271 crores as at the end of March, 1990. The Indian banks having foreign operations are by and large of a small size by international standards and have a low capital base. Government have been contributing more funds to the capital of the nationalised banks to bring their capital ratio to the desired levels.

The performance of the overseas branches of the Indian bank is continuously monitored by the Reserve Bank of India. During the last few years steps have been taken to strengthen the system of operations of the overseas sector in the areas of personnel policy, prudential norms for credit exposures, reinforcing of internal and supervisory controls, introduction of

system of portfolio inspections of international divisions in India of banks having overseas operations. Banks have also closed some of their branches which were considered non-viable.

**Study of Generalised System of Preferences**

1551. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any systematic study has been made of the extent to which the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) increases trade and how far it has proved beneficial to India;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The complexity of the schemes implemented by the principal industrialised countries under the GSP with extensive use of quotas, ceilings and maximum country amounts as well as lack of complete data from the donor countries make it difficult to estimate the beneficial effects by way of trade creation or acceleration of industrialisation for a particular country.

**Import and release of Natural Rubber by STC**

1552. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural rubber released by STC to the actual users during the first six months of 1990;

(b) the corresponding figures for the first six months of 1989;

(c) the quantity of natural rubber imported during 1989 and the first six months of 1990: and

(d) the total quantity of natural rubber proposed to be imported during 1990-91?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):** (a) and (b) The total quantity of natural rubber released by STC to the actual users during the first six months of 1990 and the corresponding figures for the first six months of 1989 are 27,000 MT and 20,000 MT (including 4,279 MT of domestic rubber) respectively.

(c) The quantity of natural rubber imported during 1989 and the first six months of 1990 are 27,005 MT and 30,000 MT respectively.

(d) The total quantity of natural rubber proposed to be imported during 1990-91 is 40,000 MT. But the entire quantity may not be released which depends upon the market situation from time to time.

#### **New Schemes for Air Travel Facility to Promote Tourism**

1553. **SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has proposed any new schemes for providing air travel facilities to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been many cancellation of tickets under tourism promotion schemes this year and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have introduced Multi entry Visa system for tourists; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER**

**OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK):** (a) and (b) Air India has been promoting India practically since the inception of its international services and works closely with the Dept. of Tourism and Travel Industry in India. This has been an on going process. Air India has been offering special promotional fares from most tourism generating areas and other special packages for promotion of tourism like Stopover Tours etc. Special Schemes have also been launched along with Department of Tourism to promote traffic to India, for example Off-Season Promotion, Special Destination Promotions, Familiarisation Tours etc.

(c) During the period April/June 1990, Air India Offices in Germany, France and Japan have reported several cancellations of inbound tourist groups. The total estimated loss during this period in terms of passenger numbers is 4250.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Visa rules have been liberalised to issue multiple entry visa valid for duration of 5 years to foreign travel agents and foreign tourists visiting India frequently and also foreign businessmen coming to India to establish industrial/business ventures. On each visit, foreign tourists and travel agents would be entitled to stay for a duration not exceeding six months. These facilities are not applicable to Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lankan nationals.

#### **Harassment to Women Employees of Air Ahmedabad**

1554. **SHRI BALVANT MANVAR:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the employees of All India Radio, Ahmedabad regarding harassment faced by women employees; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND**