

finalised its accounts for the year 1989-90. However, it was noticed that an item of expenditure was erroneously classified which distorted the profit figure arrived at earlier by the bank. The bank has since redrawn its Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account for the year 1989-90 which reflect a loss of Rs. 9.89 crores. The bank has initiated disciplinary action against certain officials responsible for the accounting lapse. Reserve Bank of India has also been advised to examine whether there has been any laxity on the part of auditors who audited the accounts of New Bank of India and to take appropriate action in this behalf.

(e) Various steps have been taken by Government and Reserve Bank of India to improve the profit earning capacity of the banks through strategies for raising business levels, exploring new avenues of profits and effective containment of expenses. RBI periodically reviews the position of banks in respect of solvency, liquidity, operational efficiency and profitability.

Export of Milk Powder

5110. SHRI MULI APPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the export of milk powder;

(b) if so, the quantity of milk powder exported during the last three years, year-wise and the targets for the current year; and

(c) whether Government propose to barter milk powder for vegetable oils?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Export of Milk Powder was banned until 1-4-90 on which date it was placed on the "Exports on Merits" list of the Import & Export Policy. Thereafter, on 10-8-90, exports of milk powder have been canalised through National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

(c) No, Sir. There is a proposal to finance NDDB's requirement of imported palmolein through exports of milk products.

Regional Rural Banks in Karnataka

5111. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main objectives of regional rural banks (RRB);

(b) the names of RRBs working in Karnataka at present; and

(c) the role played by RRBs in the development of rural economy in Karnataka during the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The main objectives of Regional Rural Banks are to make institutional credit easily available to weaker sections of society and to mobilise and channelise rural savings for supporting productive activities in rural areas.

(b) The following 13 Regional Rural Banks are functioning in Karnataka at present:—

1. Tungabhadra Gramin Bank.
2. Malaprabha Gramin Bank.
3. Cauvery Gramin Bank.
4. Krishna Gramin Bank.
5. Chitradurga Gramin Bank.
6. Kalpatharu Gramin Bank.
7. Kolar Gramin Bank.
8. Bijapur Gramin Bank.
9. Chickmagalur-Kodagu Gramin Bank.
10. Sahyadri Gramin Bank.

11. Netravati Gramin Bank.
12. Varada Gramin Bank.
13. Visveshwaraya Gramin Bank.

(c) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that the Regional Rural Banks in Karnataka have played a significant role in the development of the rural economy of the State. They have continuously increased their deposits and advances to target group beneficiaries during the Seventh Plan period. The RRBs registered an increase of 62% in deposit accounts and 153% increase in deposit amounts during the period December 1985 to December, 1989. Similarly, the number of target group beneficiaries of RRBs in the State and the amount of loans issued to them increased by 569% and 852% respectively during the same period.

[*Translation*]

Films for Late Night Telecast

5112. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan purchased some films for the late night telecast;

(b) if so, the details of the films so purchased along with details of cost involved;

(c) whether the purchases were made with the knowledge of National film Finance Corporation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken against guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The feature films, whether imported or indigenously produced, are procured by Doordarshan on payment of royalty and not on outright purchase basis.

(c) and (d) Doordarshan has been given a special dispensation to import feature films directly without placing a requisition on the National Film Development Corporation.

[*English*]

Checking Pollution in Steel Plants

5113. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to check pollution in various steel plants in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) Pollution Control Departments have been set up at all SAIL plants. Areas needing strengthening/augmentation have been identified. Necessary schemes are being implemented in a phased manner. Modern pollution monitoring systems have also been set up in these plants. An extensive training programme is being implemented to train employees in various aspects of pollution control and proper operation of equipment. Steel plants in the private sector are required to install pollution control facilities to meet the standards laid down by the State Pollution Control Boards.

Joint Ventures in Madagascar

5114. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up joint venture units in Madagascar in order to boost Indian exports to that country; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI