

(c) if so, the details of the places where bank branches have not been opened as per the suggestions of public representatives;

(d) whether new bank branches are proposed to be opened at such places in the near future; and

(e) if so, the time by which these branches are likely to be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) The suggestions made by public representatives including Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assemblies in regard to opening of new branches by commercial banks including nationalised banks and Regional Rural Banks are considered by Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) consistent with the Branch Licensing Policy evolved by them. Under Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90, allotment of centres in all districts including Almora and Pithoragarh was made to commercial banks on the basis of lists of identified centres recommended by lead banks groups and received by RBI through the respective State Government with their recommendations.

(d) and (e) Out of 65 licences issued by RBI, 17 licences are pending with banks for opening branches in two districts of Almora and Pithoragarh. The banks could not open branches at the allotted centres due to lack of infrastructural facilities and hence the RBI has extended the validity period of these licences upto 30-9-90. The District-wise detail of these centres are as under:--

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*Name of District*

*Name of Centre*

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ALMORA

1. Bhola
2. Bhingabantola
3. Rawainkhad
4. Rampur
5. Dhyaria
6. Kafra
7. Dangoli
8. Kapkote (Loharkhet)
9. Kapkote (Chaurasthal)
10. Bhainarang Khal
11. Billekh
12. Manan

PITHORAGARH

13. Rainagar
  14. Kandekiroti
  15. Devbishona
  16. Charma
  17. Bansbagad
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