

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The structure of interest rates prescribed for lending by scheduled commercial banks remain under continuous review. The policy in this regard is operated in a flexible manner and changes are made from time to time in the light of current and emerging developments in the economy.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

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Setting up of Second Steel Plant in Orissa

2706. SHRI D. AMAT:
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Second Steel Plant is proposed to be set up in Daitari in Orissa in place of Paradeep where the steel plant has been envisaged under the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal and by what time a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) A proposal for the setting up of a steel plant at Daitari, but not at Paradeep, is under the consideration of Government. However, final decision on the proposal would be taken only after the allocation of resources during the VIII Five Year Plan is known.

15—2 LSS/ND/90

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Tea Board Offices in India and Abroad

2707. SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in the country and abroad where Regional Offices of the Tea Board are situated; and

(b) the number of persons employed therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) and (b) The places in the country and abroad where Regional Offices of Tea Board are situated and the number of persons employed therein as on 31-3-1990 is indicated below:

<i>Name of the place (Offices in India)</i>	<i>Staff Strength</i>
Calcutta (H.O.)	515
New Delhi	118
Bombay	16
Madras	23
Cochin	38
Coonoor	39
Kottayam	4
Agartala	3
Silchar	8
Guwahati	21
Jorhat	13
Tezpur	5
Siliguri	16
Palampur	8
Lucknow	5
Amritsar	3
Kurseong	17
Total	852

<i>Offices (Abroad)</i>	<i>India based</i>
London	3
Brussels	3
Sydney	2
New York	1
Cairo	4
Kuwait	3
Total	16

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Production and Export of Tea

2708. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED:
DR. LAKSHMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of tea produced during 1989-90;

(b) the total quantity along with variety of tea exported to various countries;

(c) the foreign exchange earned through these exports;

(d) whether the domestic price of tea was affected during that year;

(e) the steps Government propose to take to stabilise the price of tea in the domestic market; and

(f) the export target for tea fixed for 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREE-DHARAN): (a) The total amount of tea produced in India during 1989-90 is estimated at 702.81 M. Kgs.

(b) and (c) As per the Tea Board statistics, the total quantity along-with variety of tea exported to various

countries and foreign exchange earned is given below:—

	<i>Qty. M. Kgs.</i>	<i>Value Rs./Crs.</i>
	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Value</i>
Bulk Tea	112.41	426.59
Packet Tea	+88.54	419.66
Tea Bags	+0.71	6.10
Instant Tea	1.25	10.10
Total	202.81	862.45

+Based on shipment licences issued.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) To stabilise the prices of tea in the domestic market, the following steps have been taken by the Govt:—

(i) A Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Spl. Secretary has been set up to monitor tea prices and suggest necessary measures.

(ii) Tea producers have been asked to maximise their offerings of tea in all the auction centres.

(iii) Producers have been asked to make available 10 M. Kgs. of tea to be sold in packet form through retail outlets in the country at a price of about Rs. 40/- per kg. plus local taxes.

(f) The export target for tea during 1990-91 has been kept at 230 M. Kgs.

Loans advanced by Champaran Kshetriya Gramin Bank

2709. SHRI DHARMESH PRA-SAD VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans advanced by the Champaran Kshetriya Gramin Bank in East and West Champaran districts of Bihar during each of the last three years;