

[English]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Panel to Study Tea Trade

*63. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any panel to study the ills in the tea trade;

(b) if so, the details of studies made and findings thereof;

(c) whether the major tea producing States have been consulted on this issue; and

(d) if so, their response thereto?

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

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Shortage of Staff in Rural Branches of Banks

*65. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Reserve Bank of India report there is surplus staff in the Metropolitan branches of nationalised banks whereas there is shortage of staff in the rural branches of these banks;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has submitted any scheme to remove the

shortage of staff in bank branches in rural areas; and

(d) the details of the scheme formulated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In terms of Government Guidelines issued in the year 1987 public sector banks are required to redeploy their excess staff in various pockets to the areas of deficit. Reserve Bank of India is also reported to have advised the banks of the need for redeployment of excess staff to make up the deficiencies in the rural branches.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, specific scheme has been formulated by the Government in this regard.

[English]

Pact Between ITDC and US Hotel Corporation

*69. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: SHRI BRJ BHUSHANTIWARI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation have entered into a pact with Radisson Hotel Corporation of the U.S.A.;

(b) if so, the terms of the pact between them;

(c) whether discussions were held with other international groups of hotels before entering into an agreement with M/s Radisson and

(d) the reasons for selecting Radisson in comparison to others?