

farmers, landless agricultural labourers, artisans and weavers on loans below Rs. 10,000.

(c) and (d). RBI has estimated the share of small and marginal farmers in the outstanding loans of commercial banks and cooperatives in Agriculture Sector at about Rs. 12,000 crores. Government desires to ensure that richer sections of the society and wilful defaulters do not get benefit in the process and further that the credibility of the financial institutions does not get eroded. The modalities of providing debt relief to specified groups are being examined in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

New Note Printing Press at Salboni, West Bengal

*9. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a New Note Printing Press at Salboni in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Government have approved the setting up two New Note Printing Presses, one at Salboni in West Bengal and the other at Mysore in Karnataka. The estimated cost of the two projects is Rs. 844 crores. The presses are designed to print about 5000 million pieces of currency notes per annum, each.

Trade Turnover from IITF

*10. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the India Inter-

national Trade Fair (IITF) held in Delhi recently;

(b) the volume of trade turnover from the Fair;

(c) whether any new agreements were entered into with other countries for exports and imports during the Fair; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) While IITF-89 covered various aspects of industry, agriculture, trade, science & technology etc., the special displays were on:—

(i) Environment—Air, Water, Earth and

(ii) Essential Oils, Fragrances and Flavours.

(b) to (d). It is difficult to quantify the business booked and agreements signed during the fair because business usually results over a period of time after the fair. The principal objectives of the IITF are to facilitate business contacts, project export capabilities, to offer technology options to Indian industry and create greater awareness among the Indian public about developments in different fields.

Decontrol of Newsprint Import

*11. SHRI BANWAR LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a persistent demand for the decontrol of newsprint import;

(b) whether Government propose to decontrol the import of newsprint and if so, when; and