

dies, etc. are concerned, these are applicable to Kanya Kumari also. Whatever assistance is given, will certainly be given to Kanyakumari also. I would also like to mention that 77 of the total production of rubber is by 3,65,000 farmers with small holdings. So, that consideration we are taking into account.

**SHRI N. DENNIS:** The rubber production has improved during the past 25 years, and the per-unit production has also improved, but the per-unit production of rubber in our country is less than that of Malaysia and Sri Lanka. The per-unit cost of production is also higher than in these countries. To achieve self-sufficiency, may I know from the hon. Minister whether rubber production would be extended to non-traditional areas and also whether subsidies and other encouragements would be given to the rubber growers, so that self-sufficiency is achieved? May I know the steps taken by the Government to achieve self-sufficiency in rubber in the near future?

**SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU:** The production in the current year is 291,00 tonnes, which is a record increase over the previous year. We have a gap just now, and we are importing rubber; but I think that by the end of the century, we should be able to meet this gap. The immediate problem is that there is not enough land available to bring under rubber cultivation; and here, as far as rubber is concerned, every possible effort will be made to get additional areas under cultivation, wherever land is available. This is why we have gone into the non-traditional areas also. If we have additional land available in Tamil Nadu which we can bring under cultivation, we will certainly do it.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### **Restructuring of Banking Sector**

**84. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the process of rapid expansion in the banking sector during the last few years there has been unhealthy competition between banks due to their multiplicity and overlapping areas of operations: and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government for restructuring and consolidation of the banking sector?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) and (b). It may not be correct to state that there is any widespread unhealthy competition among banks. No doubt, the commercial banks have been shown phenomenal expansion, specially since the nationalisation of major banks in 1969, in terms of branch expansion, deposit mobilisation and credit deployment. Steps are initiated, from time to time, by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India to improve operational efficiency in banks and consolidate gains of the banking system. There is no proposal, at present, for restructuring of the banking system.

#### **Telecast of Children's Films**

\*86. **PROF. P.J.KURIEN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of good children's films in the country;

(b) the number of films both in Hindi and regional languages shown on T.V. during the last one year and the number of children's films out of them; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to screen more children's films both in Hindi and regional languages?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):** (a) to (c). The replies to ques-

tions are given below ad seriatim:

(a) There is a general shortage of good quality children's films in the country

(b) 162 feature films were telecast on the National network of Doordarshan during the period from 1.12.1988 to 30.11.1989 out of which 12 were children's films.

(c) A special chunk on every third Saturday from 2.15 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. has been reserved for telecast of children's films on the National network of Doordarshan. All Doordarshan Kendras have been instructed to telecast children's films in the regional languages on a fixed frequency. Besides, a number of children's films are telecast on special occasions like the Children's Day.

#### **Office of Development Commissioner of Iron and Steel in Calcutta**

\*88. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to abolish the office of the Development Commissioner of Iron and Steel in Calcutta;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to have an alternative organisation for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### **Allocation of Additional Resources to Agriculture**

\*89. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to divert fifty per cent of resources towards agricultural sector:

(b) if so, when the proposal would be implemented, and

(c) the details of the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India has issued instructions to all commercial banks advising them to raise the proportion of advances to priority sector to 40 of their total advances. The banks were further advised to ensure that direct finance extended to agriculture (including allied activities) reached a feel of at least 15% of the total credit by March, 1985 and at least 16% by March, 1987. These norms were further reviewed and banks were advised to step up the direct finance extended to agriculture so as to reach a feel of at least 17% of their total credit by March, 1989 and 18% by March, 1990.

So far as the allocation of resources to agricultural sector is concerned, the Planning Commission proposes to channelise nearly fifty percent of the Government's investment outlay for the development of the rural areas in future plans.

#### **Transfer of Profit to Cine Workers Welfare fund**

\*93. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of profit earned by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) through screening of 'Gandhi film'; and

(b) the amount transferred to the Cine