

increased from Rs. 409.39 crores at the end of December 1979 to Rs. 766.4 crores at the end of December, 1983. Disbursals under integrated Rural Development Programme in the State increased from Rs. 2.57 crores in 1980-81 to Rs. 30.42 crores in 1983-84. Constant efforts are being made to further improve banking services in the State for the benefit of the local population.

Stock Exchange Reforms

*250. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had agreed to seek the views of the G.S. Patel Committee on Stock Exchange reforms on the proposals made periodically for setting up of mutual funds in the private sector in the interest of mobilising larger funds from the capital market.

(b) if so, the extent to which the reforms on stock exchange have been made;

(c) whether the views of Patel Committee were received; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise, in view of answer to (a) above.

Steps to Reduce Production of Low Quality Steel at Rourkela Steel Plant.

251. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state.

(a) whether the tonnage of discarded (low quality) steel has been increased in the manufacturing process of Rourkela Steel Plant in 1984-85 as compared to

1983-84;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps Government the public sector undertaking are contemplating to reduce the production of low quality (rejected) steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps taken at Rourkela Steel Plant for improving the quality of steel are installation of desulphurisation facility, process control computer for LD Converters and secondary steel making. These steps have already yielded results.

In the proposal for technological upgradation of Rourkela Steel Plant, emphasis will be laid on improvement of input raw materials.

Sinter production capacity will also be expanded. Latest technology would be incorporated in LD steel making process by installing top and bottom blowing facilities in the LD Converters. It is expected that these steps will further reduce the arisings of low quality steel.

Guidelines Issued By Nabard to Commercial and Co-operative Land Development Banks

*252. SHRI K. RAMA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of guidelines issued by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to all the commercial banks as well as the State Co-operative Land Development Banks indicating that it would be very selective in refinancing the loans extended for the purchase of tractors with HP exceeding 35; and

(b) the reasons for taking such a step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). Guidelines were issued by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to commercial and State Land Development Banks in September, 1984 to examine carefully the necessity and viability of the schemes for financing the purchase of tractors with horse power exceeding 35. The main reason for issuing such guidelines was that high horse power tractors are generally not related to actual farming operations of beneficiaries and are usually required for heavy duty operations like land shaping. However, on representations from various quarters, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has since issued another circular in February, 1985 advising banks to finance tractors upto 50 horse power on the basis of viability of individual schemes.

Bank Robberies in Nationalised Banks

*253. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bank robberies which took place in the nationalised banks in the States of Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat and the Union Territory of Delhi during the last one year; and

(b) the number of persons apprehended and the amount recovered so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) As per available information, the number of bank robberies dacoities which took place in banks in the States of Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Union Territory of Delhi, the number of persons arrested/apprehended and the amount recovered during the period 1-1-84 to 31-12-84 is given below :

Name of the State /Union Territory	No. of bank robberies/ dacoities	No. of persons arrested/apprehended	Amount recovered (Rs. in lakhs)
Punjab	11	5	0.26
Rajasthan	5	5	—
Gujarat	1	Nil	Nil
Delhi	7	5	8.27

[*Translation*]

Intoxicants Seized on Indo-Pak Border

*254. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some intoxicants have been seized during the past two months from the smugglers operating on the Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the value thereof and the number of persons arrested, in this connection;

(c) whether Government are taking any concrete steps to check such smuggling; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reports received by the Government indicate that 1872 bottles of intoxicants, *i.e.* liquor valued at Rs. 77,642. (approximately) was seized on the Indo-Pak borders during January and February, 1985. No person was arrested in this connection.

(a) and (b) The drive against smugglers has been intensified. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs department in the region has been