

bank robberies in quick succession and a break open into the strong room of a bank in Bombay ;

(b) if so, the result of such enquiry ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to improve further the security systems in the nationalised banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) & (b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that it had enquired into the incidents of the four recent bank robberies in Bombay. The incidents took place in the branches of Punjab & Sind Bank, State Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank and Bank of Maharashtra on 13-2-86, 24-2-86, 4-3-86 and 20-3-86 respectively. Necessary complaints with police authorities have been lodged, who are investigating these cases.

(c) The security arrangements in banks have been examined earlier and guidelines for strengthening the security arrangements in banks exist. Government had appointed a Working Group to go into the question of bank security, which *inter alia* suggested surprise checks, reduction in cash holding, introduction of time-lock devices, control of ingress and egress into the branches etc. The concerned reports have been sent to the State Governments and the banks. Banks are implementing the recommendations in a phased manner. This is being monitored by the Reserve Bank of India. Further, the banks have been asked to classify their branches into different categories according to the risk involved, depending upon various factors such as location of the branch, cash handled by it, the law and order situation in the area, etc., and take steps to adopt adequate security measures.

Decline in Production and Export of Brassware

*825. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production and export of brassware has decreased consi-

derably and with that the employment avenues ;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to boost the production and export of brassware of Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh ;

(c) whether any emphasis has been laid in the Seventh Five Year Plan to improve the general level of earnings among the artisans through training programme, supply of inputs, better marketing arrangements ; and

(d) the measures taken for promotion of exports and designs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID AHAM KAN) : (a) & (b). Handicrafts being a decentralised sector, firm figures of production and employment in Art brassware industry are not available. However, the value of exports of art metalware during the last three years is as under :—

Year	Rs. Crores (prov.)
1983-84	67.23
1984-85	83.11
1984-85 (April-Nov.)	53.56
1985-86 (April-Nov.)	57.35

The above data do not indicate any decline in exports of brassware from the country.

The steps being taken to boost exports and production of art metalwares of Moradabad are as follows :—

- (1) Setting up of a Metal Handicrafts service Centre to improve the quality and finish of art metalwares.
- (2) Massive Training for production of Artmetalware.

- (3) Supply of raw material to the artisans through opening of Depot.
- (4) Proposals under active consideration to send two Sales-cum-Study teams to Australia and Saudi Arabia.
- (5) Proposal for sending of one team to South Korea to study the technologies adopted by them for production of Artmetalware.
- (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The measures taken for promotion of exports and designs are as under:—

- (1) An Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has been set up.
- (2) Cash Compensatory support at the rate of 10% of the FOB value against exports of artmetalwares has been allowed.
- (3) Duty drawback rate has been raised from Rs. 15.80 to Rs. 19.50 per kg. against export of artmetalwares.
- (4) Foreign Designers are also being invited to improve the designs of the Brass-artware items.

FCI Specifications for Pulses

7676. SHRI KALYAN SINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Food Corporation of India specifications for acceptance of pulses for further supply to Army Purchase Organisation are more strict than ASC specifications ;

(b) whether officers of Food Corporation of India had accepted below specification pulses from parties directly or through NCCF and supplied the same to Army Purchase Organisation which refused

to accept these stocks and ultimately the same were disposed of through auction resulting in loss of crores of rupees ; and

(c) if so, (i) the quantity of pulses which was rejected by Army on account of quality and ultimately auctioned ; (ii) loss in terms of money suffered by the Corporation in this deal ; and (iii) action taken/proposed to be taken against officials who accepted sub-standard dal stocks and/or allowed the same to be deteriorated in Food Corporation of India godowns without proper chemical treatment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) FCI specifications are more strict than ASC specifications in respect of split pulses. However, purchases of whole and split pulses through open tender enquiry for supply to APO are made on the basis of ASC specifications.

(b) Only a small fraction of stocks were rejected in 1984-85 by the Army Purchase Organisation out of the stocks purchased through NCCF during 1983-84 and 1984-85.

(c) A quantity of 519,356 M.Ts. although initially accepted was finally rejected on resampling and has been auctioned by the Food Corporation of India. The loss has been provisionally worked out as Rs. 8.19 lakhs. Appropriate action will be taken against the officials after receipt of the findings of the Central Bureau of Investigation, which is probing in the matter.

Control on Vanaspati Production Unit by TGL International Limited

7677. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact TGL International Limited and its group of compa-