

shops until the market price of such articles has depreciated to less than 50% of their market price, when new. Television sets and fire-arms are not, however, allowed to be so disposed of unless they have been used for a period of not less than five years from the date of clearance.

Contraventions of these restrictions often come to notice when appropriate action (including confiscation of goods and adjudication of penalty) is taken.

Mineral-Bearing Areas for Exploitation by Private Sector

*484. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have sought the views of the State Governments as well as public sector companies on the issue of throwing open the mineral-bearing areas for exploitation by the private sector ; and

(b) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) (a) and (b) The Central Government have constituted a Committee for the de-reservation of mineral bearing areas. The Committee has sought views of the State Governments on the

question of de-reservation. It has also sought the views of the public sector undertakings on the question of surrender of reserved areas.

Disparity in Commission Rates Charged by Nationalised Banks

*485. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the minimum and maximum commission charged by each nationalised bank customers for the various services rendered by them ;

(b) the reasons for disparity in these charges ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Based upon studies conducted by Indian Banks' Association about the costs incurred by the banks in rendering various services, the State Bank of India revised its service charges in June, 1985. The maximum and minimum charges levied by the State Bank of India for some of the important banking services are set out below :—

Item of service	Charges	
	Minimum Rs.	Maximum Rs.
1	2	3
1) Commission on collection		
(a) Bills	5.00	1000.00
(b) Cheques	3.00	1000.00
NOTE : Postage, Telegram charges and other out of pocket expenses have to be recovered in full.		
2) Exchange Purchases :		
(a) D.D. Purchase (Bills)	8.50	1000.00 + 0.35% of the amount of the Bill.