

Karnataka is the only State which has received World Bank Assistance for enhancing its silk production. The World Bank Assisted Karnataka Sericulture Development Project which was initially sanctioned for a period of 5 years from 1980-81 to 1984-85, with an outlay of Rs. 79.85 crores, has been extended by another 1.5 years with an enhanced outlay of Rs. 101.13 crores. The project aims at increasing raw silk production in the State by 1600 M. tonnes.

**World Bank report on rate of inflation in India**

**\*332. SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank Development Report, 1986 reveals that the annual rate of inflation in India has accelerated from an average of 6.3 per cent during 1965-73 to 7.8 per cent during 1973-84; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) :** (a) According to the data presented in the Report, the rate of inflation for India is shown as 6.3 per cent during 1965-73 and 7.8 per cent during 1973-84. It may be noted that the World Bank calculations are based on estimates of GDP deflator for the two periods, and are influenced by the choice of cut off dates.

(b) The thrust of Government's anti-inflationary policy continues to be on effective supply and demand management, including strengthening of public distribution system of essential commodities, supply of foodgrains to weaker sections under special schemes, enforcement of fiscal discipline and keeping the aggregate liquidity in the system under control.

**Export of tea**

**\*333. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to export tea during the current year; and

(b) if so, the export target thereof and the names of the importing countries ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :** (a) and (b) Export of tea will continue this year. Indian tea is exported to a large number of countries all over the world. Major importers of tea from India are USSR, UK, ARE, West Germany, Iraq and Iran. The quantum and direction of export of tea will depend upon domestic production and the international situation.

**Opening of branches of nationalised banks in Himachal Pradesh**

**\*334. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks proposed to be opened in Himachal Pradesh during the year 1986-87;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted for the same; and

(c) if so, the names of the places where such surveys have been conducted ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POJARY) :** (a) to (c). The current branch licensing policy for the period 1985-90 seeks to establish atleast one bank office for a population of Seventeen thousand in the rural and semi-urban areas of each development block and to cover spatial gaps in the availability of banking facilities by ensuring one bank office within a distance of 10 kms. from each village. The Lead Banks/State Government were advised by the Reserve Bank of India to identify centres in rural and semi-urban areas in accordance with the norms prescribed under the branch licensing policy. No quantitative targets have been prescribed in regard to the number of branches to be opened either year-wise or state-wise. The process of identification of centres in Himachal Pradesh by the Lead Bank/State Government has not yet been completed.