

Under the current Branch Licensing Policy the population coverage norm is being reckoned with reference to the development block rather than the whole district in order to remove intra-district imbalances and to ensure an even spread of bank branches. Further, a spatial norm, that at least one bank office should be available within a distance of 10 Kms. has also been prescribed in the new policy.

Expansion of Trade Between India and Italy

*470. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Italian businessmen have shown keenness to expand trade with including joint ventures in relevant areas ; and

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps have been taken in this direction and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) and (b) Besides the constant interaction of Italian businessmen with Indian trade and industry to promote their commercial exchanges, they have also been interested in promoting industrial collaborations and joint ventures with Indian companies in addition, soft credits and technical assistance grants have been available by Italy for projects mutually agreed upon.

Direction to Re-Instate Workers of Kohinoor Mills.

*474. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bombay High Court has recently directed the Kohinoor Mills in Bombay to reinstate their workmen with back wages ; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the National Textile Corporation in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A Statement is given below.

Statement

The Third Labour Court, Bombay had ordered that work should be assigned to 1654 workers of Kohinoor Mills before 25.10.1986. The Bombay High Court did not grant stay of the order of the Labour Court. A social leave petition has been filed in the Supreme Court in this regard.

Scope for Setting up Indo-Hungarian Joint Ventures.

*478. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great scope for setting up Indo-Hungarian joint ventures in both countries ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) and (b) Indo-Hungarian Joint Business Council has identified potential areas for promoting joint ventures. At the meeting of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission the two sides have indicated the areas of interest to them for establishing joint ventures. Specific decisions for setting up joint ventures, however, can be taken by trade and industrial organisations in the two countries based on commercial and economic considerations.

[Translation]

Demand for Training Institute for Bank Employees in Uttar Pradesh

*479. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the largest number of branches of various banks are functioning in Uttar Pradesh ;