

hon. Minister in regard to the rules in connection with the purchases made by the Jawaharlal University. The rule is that in case the price of an article is Rs. 50,000, then the rate contract of the DGS and D should be ascertained. Has there been any bungling in this purchase by not considering the rate contract of the DGS and D?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : The Jawaharlal Nehru University and the Delhi Universities have stated that the purchases were made after observation of all the rules. A criminal case has been filed by a team of computer scientists against incorrect reporting in one newspaper which was similar to the question raised by the hon. Member. This matter is sub-judice.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over now.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Reschedulement of Loans by Nationalised Banks to Sick Units

*203. **SHRI NATAVARSINH SOLANKI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to extend the facility of reschedulement of loans by the nationalised banks to the sick units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The overall credit policy, including that for sick units is regulated by the Reserve Bank of India. In the case of viable sick units, rehabilitation packages are worked out by banks on the merits of each case in the light of the parameters laid down by Reserve Bank of India. These packages can include reschedulement of loans also.

Performance of Banks

*204. **PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the annual percentage of growth rate in the banking industry in the rural and urban areas in the country with number of new bank branches opened during 1985 and 1986 in these areas;

(b) the average percentage of increase in the bank deposits and credits particularly in the rural areas during 1985 and 1986;

(c) whether Government have made any review to know the areas where the banking service is lacking; and

(d) if so, the details thereof stating the measures contemplated to bring about alround improvement in the performance of banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The deposits of all scheduled commercial banks increased by 18.5 per cent in 1985 and by 18.9 per cent during 1986. The outstanding advances of these banks registered an increase of 12.6 per cent in 1985 and of 12.3 per cent during 1986. The growth rate of deposits and advances of rural branches in 1985 was 22.4 per cent and 20.4 per cent respectively. The Reserve Bank of India has reported that data relating to growth rate of deposits and advances of rural branches for the year 1986 is not yet available.

The total number of new bank branches opened by all scheduled commercial banks during 1985 and 1986 was 4321 and 318 respectively, which included 3674 rural branches in 1985 and 225 in 1986.

The Reserve Bank of India has completed the identification of development blocks, deficit as per the population norms contained in current branch licensing policy. With a view to cover spatial gaps in areas where banking service is not available, the policy envisages identification of new centres in a manner so as to provide a bank office within a distance of 10 kms. from every village. The banks have been further

advised that while preparing district credit plans, the credit requirements of under-banked pockets should also be kept in view.

Urban Poverty

*206. SHRIMATI MBIRA KUMAR :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a considerable rise in urban poverty;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) whether any special schemes are being launched to eradicate urban poverty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement is given below.

Statement

The Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) was launched on 1st September, 1986 for providing self-employment opportunities to the urban poor. The programme covers cities/towns with population exceeding 10,000 as per 1981 census, which are not covered under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). Persons whose total family income is not more than Rs. 600 per month are eligible for assistance, not exceeding Rs. 5,000 with capital subsidy of 25 per cent to undertake viable economic activities. Loans under the programme carry interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum and have to be repaid in 33 monthly instalments after an initial grace period of 3 months. During the current financial year (i.e., 1986-87) one beneficiary for every three hundred population (1981 census) is to be assisted in the Centres covered under the programme for which a provision of Rs. 37 crores has been made towards the subsidy component of the loan extended to the individual borrowers.

Italian Bank Aid for Joint Venture Projects

207. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals are being worked out with some Italian Banks to finance joint venture projects;

(b) if so, whether any final agreement has been reached in this regard; and

(c) the names of small scale industries that will be covered under the agreement and to what extent the Italian Government will be providing finance to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government for financing joint venture projects by Italian Banks.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

[Translation]

Utilisation of Plan Funds by States

*208. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government periodically review the position regarding the utilisation of the amount sanctioned as plan outlay to the States;

(b) if so, what is the position regarding Bihar; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to set up any machinery in consultation with the State Governments to see that States fully utilise the amount sanctioned to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Planning Com-