

(c) whether all nationalised bank were represented at the meeting; and

(d) If not, names of banks not represented and reasons for their non-representation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Commissioner, Lucknow Division, Uttar Pradesh, had convened a meeting on January 23, 1988 to review the progress of various development schemes including the scheme for providing Self Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY). In the meeting the progress of sanctions and disbursements of cases by banks under (SEEUY) was not considered satisfactory and therefore, representatives of the banks were advised to issue suitable instructions to their branches for early disposal of pending applications as well as for disbursement of loans in sanctioned cases. The RBI has further reported that out of 9 public sector banks having lead responsibility in the State of Uttar Pradesh, 3 Banks viz. State Bank of India Allahabad Bank and Punjab National Bank were represented at the meeting. The other six banks, namely, Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India, Syndicate Bank and Union Bank of India were not represented. The reasons for the absence of the representatives of these banks are being ascertained.

Seizure of contraband gold in Karnataka

*992. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the seizure of contraband gold near Kundapur in Karnataka during the last six months;

(b) whether any foreign nationals are found to be involved in the smuggling operation;

(c) the number of persons arrested

and the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the effective measures being taken by Union Government with the co-ordination of concerned State Governments to check smuggling activities along the Western coast ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) During the last six months the Customs authorities have made one seizure of contraband gold near Kundapur. In this case which was made on 7th April, 1988, 2740 gold biscuits of foreign origin weighing 319,484 kgs. valued at Rs. 10.39 crores approximately were seized.

(b) and (c) 8 persons have been arrested in this case and remanded to judicial custody. All these persons are Indian nationals. No foreign national has been found to be involved.

(d) The anti-smuggling drive throughout the country including the area around Kundapur has been intensified. Intensive and extensive patrolling on both land and sea is being undertaken. Close co-ordination is being maintained with all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling.

Recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Indian Overseas Bank

*993. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAI-RWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State-wise, rosters for recruitment to class III and IV posts in Indian Overseas Bank are maintained and record kept by the regional/Zonal liaison officer of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes appointed by the bank at various regional/zonal offices;

(b) whether the rosters for regional requirements have been inspected/checked

by directors of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes working in various States in case of Indian Overseas Bank;

(c) If so, the dates thereof, Statewise, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to make effective the machinery of liaison officers in bank specially in respect of SC/ST employees and their associations and training of regional/zonal liaison officers on reservation policy and its proper understanding and implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Indian Overseas Bank has reported that the State-wise rosters for recruitment to Clerical and Substaff cadres are presently being maintained at its head Office.

(b) and (c) As per the information furnished by national Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, it has not asked the Directors of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the States to inspect such rosters.

(d) Government has advised all the public sector banks, including Indian Overseas Bank, that the Liaison Officers for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes appointed in the banks may informally meet the SC/ST employees and their representatives and hear their grievances in respect of matters arising out of policy regarding reservations. A meeting of the Liaison Officers was also held in the Banking Division to emphasise their more effective role in the implementation of the reservation policy in the bank. Indian Overseas Bank conducted, in 1987, a workshop on reservation policy for its zonal/regional level Liaison Officers.

Water Basin Authority

*995. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

DR. G.S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to be state :

(a) whether Union Government have decided to set up a Water Basin Authority soon;

(b) by what time the same is likely to be set up;

(c) the main functions of Authority and whether the State Governments will also be represented in this Authority; and

(d) to what extent it will be helpful for utilisation and distribution of water ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (d) The National Water Policy lays down that resource planning in the case of water should be done for a hydrological unit such as a drainage basin or a sub-basin, the Policy envisages establishment of appropriate organisations with the main function of ensuring planned development and management of a river basin as a whole. The issues relating to the form and role of organisation, including participation of the State Governments, would need to be finalised.

Tax dispute cases pending decision

*996. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tax dispute cases pending decision for the last three years;

(b) the steps taken for the speedy settlement of tax disputes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) The number of tax dispute cases pending decision at various levels for the last three years in respect of Direct Taxes and Indirect Taxes is as follows :

Direct Taxes (As on 31.3.87)—53,773

Indirect Taxes (As on 1.1.88)—47,761

(b) The Government has taken all possible administrative/legal measures for speedy disposal of tax disputes.