

**Sixth Antarctica Expedition**

**\*846. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any re-appraisal has been made regarding the work done by the Sixth Antarctica Scientific Expedition; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir. The appraisal of the work done by the scientific expeditions to Antarctica is made by a Technical Evaluation Committee about three months after the return of the expedition and this will be done during the debriefing of the sixth Indian Antarctic Expedition in June, 1987.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Upliftment of Backward Classes of U.P.**

**\*851. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh for upliftment of backward classes during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) the amount proposed to be spent by the State Government on the upliftment of these classes during 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (b). According to their plan, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have provided 1055 lakhs for the Seventh Plan and Rs. 262 lakhs for 1987-88 for upliftment of other Backward Classes. This is besides the amount for SC & STs.

[*English*]

**New 20-Point Programme**

**\*852 DR. B.L. SHAILESH:  
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:**

Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new 20-Point Programme has since been launched;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the details of the various schemes which have a crucial bearing on the eradication of poverty;

(d) to what extent this programme will be more beneficial and result-oriented; and

(e) the machinery devised for its proper implementation?

THE MINISTER FOR PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. 20-Point Programme - 1986 has been launched from 1st April, 1987.

(b) The 20-Point Programme - 1986 lays stress on eradicating poverty, raising productivity, reducing income inequalities, removing social and economic disparities and improving the quality of life.

(c) The important schemes having a crucial bearing on eradication of poverty included in the 20-Point Programme -1986 are: Integrated Rural Development Programme, National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, Enforcement of Land Reforms, Special Programmes for rural labour including Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour and Justice to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, etc.

(d) The programme lays thrust on poverty alleviation programmes and creation of fuller employment and with the

improved and effective implementation and monitoring arrangements it is expected that the 20-Point Programme - 1986 would be more result oriented.

(e) The Programme is being implemented mainly by State Governments and Union Territory Administrations and they have been advised to strengthen the implementation and monitoring machinery for effective implementation the Programme.

#### Opening of Gramin Bank Branch in Bihar

\*853. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to open Gramin Bank branch at Derni in Bihar has been finalised; and

(b) if so, when the proposed branch is likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (b). Under the branch expansion policy for the Seventh Plan period, the allotment of centres in rural and semi-urban areas to various banks, including the Regional Rural Banks, is to be made by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on the basis of lists of identified centres sent to it by the State Governments. The RBI has reported that it has received lists of identified centres in respect of sixteen districts of Bihar and the centre Derni does not figure in the lists received so far.

#### Excise Relief to Small Rubber Units

\*855. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to grant excise duty relief to camel back and tread-rubber to protect the small units

engaged in retreading and other ancillary 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). Government have received certain representations requesting for reduction in excise duty on tread rubber, camel back and other similar retreading materials manufactured by small-scale units. The decision on these requests will be announced in due course.

#### External Commercial Borrowings

\*857. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimates of funds to be raised externally through commercial borrowings by Government during the Seventh Plan;

(b) whether Government propose to review expenditure in hard currency on some of the projects and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any savings on Government expenditure are also proposed to keep our borrowings to the minimum for foundation development work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Seventh Plan provides for a total inflow, at 1984-85 prices, of Rs. 20,900 crores over the Plan Period, by way of net aid and other borrowings. There is no fixed target for commercial borrowings separately. The extent of commercial borrowings would depend upon the flow of aid, requirements of foreign exchange for different projects and international market conditions. All projects are appraised and evaluated in terms of expenditure in local currency as well as in foreign currencies and they are