

rural banks are concentrated, there is no adequate security measure. For example, in my Constituency, Sambalpur district, there is one Kulavira village Grami bank where Rs. 56 lakh worth of gold has been robbed. But uptill now, no break-through has been made and no officer or Chairman had written to that bank about it and the employees had not been taken to task. Based on this fact, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what are the guidelines prescribed to keep money and other valuable worthy materials in a village Gramin bank? This particular bank people had kept Rs. 56 lakh worth of jewellery but they have not been taken to task.

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** The curbing and investigation of the offences is a part and parcel of the functions of the State Governments and we have brought to the notice of the State Governments also regarding the undetectable cases.

So far as the security point is concerned, all the banks have their own internal security arrangements for protection of their cash and valuable articles, particularly at the bigger centres as also small centres. Some of the arrangements which are commonly found in all the banks are:

(i) Strong room under joint custody for overnight storage of cash.

(ii) Protective enclosures for cashiers who receive cash at the counter.

(iii) Armed escorts for cash during transit.

(iv) Armed guards at the branch premises.

### Effect on Indian exports of New USA Import Rule

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\*839. **SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY:**

**SHRI B. V. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new U.S.A. import rule affects Indian items;

(b) if so, whether Indian products which had earned \$ 1636 million from exports to U.S.A. in 1981 have become ineligible for GSP treatment;

(c) if so, what are the Indian exports which have been greatly affected by the new U.S. Import rule;

(d) whether India has taken up this question with the authorities of U.S.A.; and

(e) if so, what is their reaction?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL):** (a) to (e). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

### Statement

Under the Generalised System of Preferences of the U.S.A. there are certain limitations on preferential treatment for products included in the scheme. These limitations provide that if during a calendar year, export of a product from a beneficiary developing country to the USA exceeded certain value (US \$ 50.9 million at present) or 50 per cent of the total imports into USA, the beneficiary country concerned would become ineligible for preferential treatment with respect to that product in the following year. These limi-

tations will not, however, apply where the total value of the export is small (i.e. up to \$ 1.2 million at present). On account of these value

T. S. US 121.35	Calf and kip lining leathers.
T. S. US 121.55	Buffalo leather, in rough, partly finished, or finished, not fancy.
T. S. US 319.01	Handloom fabrics wholly cotton—number 14 or course.
T. S. US 319.03	Handloom fabrics wholly cotton—number 15—34.
T. S. US 319.05	Handloom fabrics wholly cotton—number 35—49.
T. S. US 360.35	Coir floor coverings pile not hand inserted or knotted.

Total imports into USA from India of the above six products during 1981 amounted to \$ 16.362 million. Both bilaterally and at the multilateral forums US authorities have been requested for the removal of the above limitations.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Both Indian exports and India's trade balance with the United States had shown an improvement during 1980-81. But after this New USA Import Rule, most of the Indian items are affected, thus causing a great setback in India's and USA's trade balance. In view of this, I want to know from the hon. Minister which are the other exporting countries which are affected by this New USA Import Rule and whether the Government has taken up this matter with the United States to remove such limitations and, if so, what is the reaction of the United States Government.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The Government of India has taken up this matter with the Government of United States. The Government of India is trying to solve this problem by having bilateral talks as well as multilateral talks also. The other countries which are affected by a policy of this kind are Taiwan, Korea, Hong Kong, Mexico, Brazil, Singapore and Israel.

limitations, India has been made ineligible for GSP benefits for the following six products during the year beginning 31st March, 1982.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: It has appeared in the press that our Prime Minister is shortly visiting United States. In view of this, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether a Commerce delegation will be taken along with the Prime Minister and whether it is a fact that the United States Government recently intimated the IMF authorities that India's and United States' trade balance is deteriorating and, if so, the reaction of the Government.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I am afraid, I may not be able to reply to both the questions. Generally, whenever it is necessary, the delegations are sent and received. It is not necessary all the time to send a delegation along with the Prime Minister. But if it is necessary, that can also be done. But I am not in a position to say, yes or no, on that point. As far as the other point is concerned, I am afraid, I am not in a position to answer that point also.

#### Indebtedness of States

\*841. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:—Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the indebtedness of the States has shown phenomenal rise in March