

the operationalisation of the High Power (10KW) TV Transmitter under establishment at Calicut in replacement of the existing Low Power (100W) TV Transmitter there. Further expansion of the regional service in the State depends, inter alia, upon development of microwave links in the State by Department of Telecommunications and future availability of resources.

Import of Cloves from Nepal

865. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1987	203	10.82
1988	343	25.22
1989	152	52.51

(c) The anti-smuggling machinery on the Indo-Nepal border has been strengthened. Periodic co-ordination Meetings with the concerned State administrations are arranged to maintain close co-operation for anti-smuggling work on the Indo-Nepal border. Special drives are launched from time to time on the borders to curb smuggling. Constant re-deployment of staff and equipment to areas vulnerable to smuggling is undertaken.

Counter Trade with Bofors

866. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bofors AB undertook to import Indian goods as counter trade in the Howitzer deal;

(b) if so, the details of the counter trade actually achieved through this method;

(a) whether Government are aware of the clandestine import of cloves through Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a). Yes Sir.

(b) The details of the seizures of cloves on the Indo-Nepal border during the last three years are given in the table below:

(c) the extent of rise in exports to Sweden in the last three years, attributable directly to this counter trade agreement;

(d) whether any agents/representatives were appointed by Bofors and or through others, through whom this counter trade was to be conducted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Upto December, 1989 export shipments worth Rs. 391 crores approximately have been accredited under the Memorandum of Understanding.

(c) According to the Memorandum of Understanding, export of goods is allowed to third countries also and not restricted only to

Sweden. However, the all India export figures exclusively to Sweden since 1985-86 are given below which generally indicate an increasing trend in exports:-

(In Rs. crores)

1985-86	38.88
1986-87	55.60
1987-88*	81.20
1988-89*	74.74
1989-90	63.54

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta.)

* Figures are provisional

(d) and (e). Under the Memorandum of Understanding, Bofors can assign counter trade obligation to one or several appropriate agencies. The list of such nominees could also be modified with mutual consent. Currently there are 19 nominees of Bofors.

[Translation]

Opening of Bank Branches in Bihar

867. PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY: Will

the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks in Bihar, bank-wise;

(b) whether the branches of the nationalised banks are inadequate in Bihar;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the scheme for opening more branches during 1990-91 in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) 2718 branches of public sector banks were functioning in Bihar as on December 31, 1989 as per bank-wise details given in the statement below.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The average population per branch in the State of Bihar was 15000 as on 31st March, 1989, which is below the norm of 17000 as per the current Branch Licensing Policy.

(d) 332 licences for opening of branches are pending under the current Branch Licensing Policy in the State of Bihar.

STATEMENT

<i>Name of the banks</i>		<i>No. of branches</i>
1		2
1.	State Bank of India	839
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	7
3.	State Bank of Patiala	1
4.	Allahabad Bank	208
5.	Andhra Bank	3
6.	Bank of Baroda	76
7.	Bank of India	318