

(b) if so, whether Government intend to help the farmers to save the stock with the farmers from deterioration during monsoon and consequent economic ruin ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) (a) and (b) :

The prices of flue cured virginia (FCV) tobacco, which is the principal export variety, have been either steady or higher, as compared to the previous years. However, the prices of bidi tobacco—grown predominantly in Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Motihari and Jati tobacco—grown in West Bengal have declined to some extent during this year, as compared to the higher prices that obtained during the previous two years. The high prices were due to shortfall in the production of these types of tobaccos during those years.

No accumulation of stocks of FCV tobacco has been reported. Accumulation of stocks of bidi tobacco have been reported in Gujarat.

Bidi tobacco has a very limited export demand. The maximum quantity of bidi tobacco exported during the last five years was 4582 metric tonnes in 1975-76. The State Trading Corporation of India have examined the possibility of finding export market for the bidi tobacco but are of the view that it is not promising and that these stocks will have to be disposed of internally for consumption by the indigenous bidi industry.

ग्रामीण बैंकों के माध्यम से अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के व्यक्तियों को बिए नए ऋण

* 802. श्री रामजी लाल सुवन : क्या बिल तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आपात स्थिति के दौरान ग्रामीण बैंकों के माध्यम से अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के व्यक्तियों को कितनी राशि के ऋण दिये गये ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार उनको बन्द कर देने का है अथवा उनकी संख्या बढ़ाने का है और यदि ग्रामीण बैंक अधिक संख्या में खोले जाते हैं तो वे कब तक खोले जायेंगे और तत्सम्बन्धी योजना की रूपरेखा क्या है ?

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बिल तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मन्त्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक अपने ऋणकर्ताओं की जाति के आधार पर पृथक आंकड़े नहीं रखते ।

(ख) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों के कार्यचालन की समीक्षा करने के लिए प्रोफेसर एम०एल० दातवाला की अध्यक्षता में एक समिति का गठन किया है। आशा है समिति अपनी रिपोर्ट लगभग तीन महीने में प्रस्तुत कर देगी। क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक विषयक प्राणामी नीति की रूपरेखा समिति की सिफारिशों को ध्यान में रखकर निर्धारित की जायेगी।

Recruitment of Air-Hostesses

* 803. SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state : (a) whether Government have formulated any policy for the recruitment of air-hostesses ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any safeguards have been included for the recruitment of women from weaker sections of the community ;

(d) whether any plan has been operating in Bombay and Delhi to recruit only women from sophisticated societies ; and

(e) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) : (a) and (b) : Recruitment to the posts of Air Hostesses is within the competence of Indian Airlines and Air-India.

(c) Yes, Sir. The directive issued by Government to Indian Airlines and Air-India provides for reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for different types of jobs and this reservation is applicable in the case of recruitment to the posts of Air Hostesses also. Further, several special relaxations also operate in the cases of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates and special facilities are also provided to them regarding tests and training.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.