

at the Bombay Central after inquiry, on the days the stock of Betel leaves baskets is not lifted from the Vasai Road Station, due to shortage of space?

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Sir, I invite the hon. Member to see me, along with the letters purportedly written by him to discuss the matter and I would like to assure him strictest action against the erring officers.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, about the kind of arrangements being made for transporting perishable items like betel leaves and fish, as a supplementary to the question by my colleague Shri Shah, regarding shortage of booking space by parcel on a particular train of Bombay for perishable commodities instead of other commodities.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: I have already mentioned the priorities.

DR. PRABHAT KUMARKISHRA: While the question of betel leaves transport is being discussed, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that at some railway stations like Bilaspur, Bhopal and Jhansi, sale of betel leaf has been banned and in that case, its transportation has no sense. Mr. Speaker, Sir, betel leaf is an item which is offered to God in pooja.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: This question is in no way related to the main question.

SHRI BALKAVI BAI RAGI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please tell him that when betel leaf is offered to God, he does not spit after chewing it.

[*English*]

Regulation of EPZ Units and EOUs

*868. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Export Processing Zone

(EPZ) and Export Oriented Units (EOUs) are being regulated by different Ministers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Ministry of Commerce is the nodal Ministry for the scheme of Export Processing Zones and the Scheme of 100% Export Oriented Units. Cases involving the issue of Letter of Intent or Industrial Licence under both the schemes are governed by the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 which is administered by the Ministry of Industry. Financial clearance is subject to approval by the Finance Ministry.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Sir, we all know that our Export Oriented Units and Export Processing Zones were created to earn more and more foreign exchange and also to adopt high technology. But from the answer given by the hon. minister, it is clearly evident that though the Commerce Ministry is the nodal Ministry but the other two Ministries, namely Industry and Finance, are also involved. So, in their functioning also, the Commerce Ministry is facing many hurdles and difficulties, which fact has been agreed to by the hon. Minister while replying to another question by Mr. Patil a few minutes back. So, may I know from the hon. Minister what is the thinking of the Government to bring both, EPZs and EOU, under one umbrella or to have more coordination among these Ministries? Why I am asking this is because you will see that though the Export Oriented Units are selling twenty-five per cent of their production in the domestic market, whenever they want equity or foreign exchange, they are governed by FERA. But in the case of the units located in the E.P. Zones, they are not governed by FERA. So, this is the discrimination. May I know from the hon. Minister what is the thinking of the Commerce Ministry so that this discrimination may not be there and we can earn more and more foreign exchange for which these

types of units were created?

SHRI DINESH SINGH Sir, as I have mentioned earlier, it is our endeavour to create better coordination and to simplify the procedures

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA Are there any foreign companies trying to exploit our export processing zone to sell only 25% of their production in the domestic market which is creating difficulties to our entrepreneurs? In this connection, may I know what is the solution thought of by the Commerce Ministry so that our entrepreneurs may not have such difficulties and the foreign companies also may not exploit them?

SHRI DINESH SINGH Sir, we are not aware of any such difficulties

Deposits of Nationalised Banks in Maharashtra

*869 SHRI PRAKASH V PATIL Will

the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the total deposits in the nationalised banks in Maharashtra during the last three years,

(b) the amount of loans given in the State during the same period,

(c) the areas in the State where the deposits were more and loan given was less or vice versa, and

(d) the action taken by Government to set right the imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) to (d) A statement is given below

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) The aggregate deposits and outstanding credit of Public Sector Banks in the State of Maharashtra for the last three years has been as under —

(Amount in Rs Crores)

| | Dec 1986 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Deposits | 16,349 73 | 18,369 50 | 21,583 01 |
| Advances | 13,043 73 | 13,966 66 | 15,296 47 |

(c) and (d) As per information available from Reserve Bank of India the deposits were more than advances in all the districts of Maharashtra as at the end of December, 1987. The banks are required to maintain certain statutory reserves on their not demand and time liabilities and as such the total credit deployed by them will on the whole be less than the deposits

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH V PATIL Mr Speaker,

Sir, from the reply of the hon Minister, it is clear that the Government of Maharashtra has deposited Rs 21 thousand crore and the Centre has advanced Rs 15 thousand crore. The Government of Maharashtra has written to the Reserve Bank of India to reduce by four percent the rate of interest on agricultural loans. This burden will be shared by the Government of Maharashtra and the State Cooperative Bank equally. Under the situation, the RBI will not have to face any difficulty. Under the circumstances, I would like to know from the hon Minister the rea-