

(c) (i) REP Licences are valid for import of Limited Permissible items and non-sensitive canalised items. These are also valid for the import of certain restricted items relevant to the product exported as specified in Appendix 17 Part-III, to a limited extent;

(ii) Additional REP Licences are valid for import of OGL items of raw material/components etc. in Appendix 6 List 8/Part-I, OGL Capital Goods, Limited Permissible items, Non-sensitive canalised items, Technical Designs, Drawings and other Technical Documentation, subject to the conditions laid down;

(iii) Advance licences and Special Imprest Licences are valid for the import of raw materials, components and consumables etc. as are relevant and actually required for the manufacture of resultant product for export/supply. Diamond Imprest Licences and DTC Imprest Licences are valid for the import of Rough Diamonds for export production.

(d) No control on replenishment (REP) licences is envisaged. These licences are freely transferable in accordance with the ordinary law.

Incentives for EPZs and EOUs

758. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-GRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new packages of incentives proposed by the Government for the Export Processing Zones and Export Oriented Units;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A package of proposals for Export Processing Zones and Export Oriented Units is under consideration.

Merger of Scheduled Banks

759. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-GRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for sharp fall in the deposit growth of scheduled banks;

(b) whether the Government propose to amalgamate a few banks to reduce the expenses and get better returns; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the percentage increase in the deposits over the previous year of the commercial banks was 18.96 per cent and 16.74 per cent for the financial years 1989-90 and 1990-91 respectively. Some of the reasons for the fall in the growth rate of deposits of banks are availability of certain other avenues of investment to public such as National Savings Scheme of 1987, National Savings Certificates, Public Provident Fund, Units of Unit Trust of India, Mutual Funds, Debentures/ Shares, company deposits etc. which not only provide better interest rates but also enable the investors to secure certain concessions in Income-Tax.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Credit-Deposit Ratio of State Bank of Indore in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

760. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present credit-deposit ratio of the State Bank of Indore in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the amount of advances/overdrafts and other advances made by the bank to the borrowers and the amount outstanding/overdue in these

accounts as on June 30, 1991 to the importers/exporters, industrial units in these States, during the last three years, branch-wise; and

(c) the number of units financed by the bank in these States which are sick/closed and the amount of locked up capital therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As reported by Reserve Bank of India the Credit: Deposit Ratio of State Bank of Indore in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh as on 31-3-1990 was 68.5 per cent and 40.6 per cent respectively.

(b) and (c) As on 30th June, 1991, State Bank of Indore had 289 branches in Madhya Pradesh and 7 branches in Uttar Pradesh. The consolidated information pertaining to these and branches in the two States is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Return of Gold Ornaments from Portugal

761. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have finalised the matter relating to the return of gold ornaments and other safe custody articles of Goans presently held with Banco National Ultramarino, Lisbon, Portugal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the matter is likely to be finally settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) With

the approval of the Government of India, an agreement was signed at New Delhi on 14-2-1991 between the Chairman, State Bank of India (SBI) and Chairman, Banco National Ultramarino (BNU) Lisbon, for repatriation of sealed packets containing valuables pledged against loans and safe custody articles;

(b) and (c) In terms of the said agreement, BNU would transfer en-bloc to State Bank of India all outstanding credits, securities and safe custody articles against lump sum payment of principal outstanding, interest thereon and a fixed service charge. A team of SBI officials has left for Lisbon for verification of the sealed packages and taking delivery thereof.

[*Translation*]

National Highways in Bihar

762. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare Patna-Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi-Miththmore road, Sitamarhi-Sonvarsa road, Saidpur-Pupari-Surspubela road and Pupari-Chaurat-Madhavapur road in Bihar as National Highways.

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on each of these roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Lateral Road on Nepal Border in Bihar

763. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a lateral road