

is provided. The entire Central grant of Rs. 10 crores has already been released to the U.P. Government, for development of this Export Promotion Industrial Park.

[*Translation*]

#### **Fiscal Deficit**

588. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the figures regarding the fiscal deficit in the Budget of the Union Government for the year 1997-98;
- (b) the percentage of G.D.P. regarded as deficit;
- (c) whether it is below the limit; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken to minimise the limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) The fiscal deficit has been kept at Rs. 65,454 crore in the Budget Estimates for 1997-98 which is estimated at 4.5% of GDP.

(c) and (d) As mentioned in the Finance Minister's budget speech for 1997-98, Government hopes to bring the fiscal deficit under 4% in the next budget.

[*English*]

#### **Income Tax Dues Against State Apex Co-operative Banks**

589. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Income Tax Department has served notices on State Apex Co-operative Banks for payment of income tax on income earners from the investments from reserve funds in Government securities;
- (b) if so, the name of banks with amount due from them as on March, 31, 1997 of any convenient accounting date;
- (c) whether the banks represented to the Government for not claiming income-tax on such investments; and
- (d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Amount Deposited in NSS in M.P.**

590. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amount deposited in small saving schemes, Unit Trust of India Schemes, National Saving Schemes and various Nationalised Banks during each of the last three years in Madhya Pradesh, institution-wise, district-wise;

(b) the names of the financial institutions which have provided financial assistance to the Government of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the terms and condition laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The information being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Development of Sericulture**

591. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes being operated by Union Government for the development of sericulture in the country as on 30th June, 1997;
- (b) the amount of financial assistance provided to Karnataka for this purpose during 1996-97; and
- (c) the amount likely to be given during 1997-98 to the State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Sericulture development programmes are being implemented by the States under their respective Plan Programmes. However in order to supplement their effort Central Silk Board also implements schemes/programmes for promoting development of all four types of silk. These include schemes for extension of R&D, training, infrastructure and infrastructural support to the sector through network of CSB units and implementation of schemes for encouraging adoption of modern sericultural practices for production of quality silk. Besides, CSB has also taken up specific projects like World Bank assisted National Sericulture Project (17 States), Action Plan for North-Eastern Region, Poorvanchal Sericulture Development Project in Uttar Pradesh, etc. in collaboration/association with State Governments. One important scheme launched in 1997-98 is for providing subsidies for establishment of multiend reeling.

(b) The Planning Commission, Government of India makes allocation for development of sericulture under the States Plan programme. Under the WorldBank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project during the 1996-97 a provision of Rs. 88.65 crores has been provided to the Karnataka against the total revised project cost of Rs. 583.79 crores.

(c) No specific programmes have been received from the State Government However a provision of Rs. 38.42 crores is earmarked for the CSB having its headquarters and other units in Karnataka. Expenditure during 1997-98 in Karnataka would be dependent on the schemes sent to the CSB by the State Government.

#### **Karnataka High Court Bench**

592. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Bench of Karnataka High Court at Hubli-Dharwad in accordance with the decision taken by the Government of Karnataka;

(b) whether the Government have also received any proposal from the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (d) The Government of Karnataka is of the view that a permanent Bench of the Karnataka High Court should be established at Hubli-Dharwad. However, the Chief Justice of the High Court has not so far endorsed the proposal. It is the policy of the Government of India that both the State Government and the High Court consider the matter from all angles and arrive at a consensus. As no complete proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, for establishment of a Bench of the High Court at Hubli-Dharwad, it is not possible for the Central Government to take a decision in the matter.

#### Smuggling of Gold & Foreign Currency

593. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the smuggling of gold and foreign currency are on the increase in the country;

(b) the number of cases brought to their notice between January and July this year, so far, alongwith the quantity and value of Gold and Foreign Currency seized;

(c) whether such incidents are more prevalent in Delhi;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Air Customs unit of Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(e) whether any action has been initiated against the persons smuggling gold and foreign currency; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There is no intelligence indicating increase in smuggling of gold and foreign currency into this country.

(b) 378 Kg of gold valued at Rs. 1844 lakh and foreign currency valued at Rs. 2923 lakhs have been seized from January to July 1997 (Figures are provisional). The exact number of cases detected is being ascertained.

(c) Available reports do not suggest that incidents of smuggling are more prevalent in Delhi.

(d) NIL in view of (c) above.

(e) and (f) The persons found guilty are arrested and prosecuted. In appropriate cases detention of offenders under COFEPOSA is also made.

#### Infrastructure Development in Border Areas

594. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for infrastructure development in the border areas from the Government of Mizoram and Manipur are pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof including financial outlays;

(c) the action taken to sanction the proposals during the current financial year;

(d) whether any proposals for the development of infrastructure in the border points of the North-Eastern India along the Myanmar, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Chinese Border is under consideration of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial outlays during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (e) A proposal received from Government of Mizoram for creation of a border township at Champai is being considered by the Ministry of Home Affairs which is the Nodal Ministry for considering the same.

A proposal has been received from the Government of Mizoram for sanction of Rs. 8.13 crores under the Critical Infrastructure Balance (CIB) Scheme for infrastructure development in Champai-Rih sector along Indo-Myanmar border and this is under consideration in this Ministry.

A number of steps have been taken by this Ministry to facilitate border trade with Myanmar via Moreh in Manipur corresponding to Tamu in Myanmar. The steps taken include banking, customs, immigration and other related trading arrangements.

Based on the recommendation of this Ministry, the Ministry of Home Affairs have agreed to extend the validity for installing the currency chest at Moreh for a period of twelve months.

#### SIDBI's Loan to Small Scale Industries

595. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the role played by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in the promotion of Small Scale Industries Sector in the Country; and

(b) the number of units established/provided loan by SIDBI in the States during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The Small