

New policy for leather and leather goods

2124. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently finalised new policy for leather and leather goods with a view to reduce the incentives now available for finished leather export and to provide adequate incentives for the indigenous products, like garments, shoe-uppers and handbags;

(b) whether the Committee which went into the question of rationalising the incentives system for leather export had favoured weightage for export of leather products and discouraged export of finished leather by withdrawing the liberal incentives available now; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the new policy of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Review Committee on Leather and Leather Manufactures for Exports had, inter alia, recommended a graded system of incentives to push up exports of value added leather products.

(c) Export of finished leather including sole leather conforming to prescribed ISI standards, if exported by air, is eligible for cash compensatory support at the rate of 3 per cent.

Repayment of loan under IRDP

2125. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the IRDP borrowers face difficulties as they are required to repay their loan long before the machines go into production and they make some profit to repay their loan; and

(b) whether Government would consider laying a five year period after which the loan will be repaid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Banks have been advised to fix the repayment period for IRDP loans in a realistic manner keeping in view the fact that repayment has to be made from the income generated out of the assets created. Banks have also been advised that the repayment period of IRDP loans should not be less than 3 years having regard to all the relevant factors such as the repayment capacity, life of the asset, etc. As the repayment schedule will have to be fixed with reference to the income generating capacity of the economic activity undertaken by the beneficiary, it would not be desirable to fix a uniform period of 5 years for repayment of IRDP loans.

Export of oilseeds

2126. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the export of oilseeds has decreased; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to improve the export of oil seeds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of oilseeds is not normally allowed as per the present Export Policy as a result of domestic considerations where we are having a shortage of oilseeds. As such, it is not proposed to draw up measures for the export of oil seeds for the present.

Rural Insurance Corporation

2127. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for setting up Rural Insurance Corporation to implement the various schemes devised for the benefit of the rural people, especially weaker sections, particularly in Madhya Pradesh in remote areas where Adivasis are living; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Government have received a proposal in the Sixth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on General Insurance Corporation of India regarding setting up of a Rural Insurance Corporation for implementing the various Schemes devised for benefit of rural masses in general and weaker sections in particular, and have noted the above proposal for appropriate necessary action after examination of all relevant aspects.

Computer facility in custom houses in Kerala

2128. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to have computer facility in custom houses in Kerala to be linked with Delhi through a host computer; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A pilot project on computerisation of customs assessments has been introduced in Bombay Custom House. On the basis of the experience gained, this arrangement would be extended to all the major custom houses. It is also proposed to link all the custom houses through a Host Computer. Cochin Custom House is also likely to be covered by this arrangement.

Instructions to encourage participation of minorities in banking service

2129. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instructions have been issued to banks to encourage participation of minorities at all levels in banking service;

(b) if so, when these instructions were issued;

(c) the details of such instructions; and

(d) whether any districts in particular have been indentified for greater representation of minorities in services and if so, names of these districts and the basis of their selection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). As part of the overall programme for welfare of Minorities regarding measures to be taken to facilitate full participation of Minorities in all aspects of national life and with a view to improving the economic condition of the Minorities, certain instructions were issued in 1983 to all the public sector banks and Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRBs) e.g., inclusion of a member from the Minority Community on BSRBs and the recruitment panels, providing assistance to State Governments/Educational Institutions in pre-recruitment training to candidates of minority communities. Recently, the matter was re-examined and fresh instructions have been issued in June, 1986 to the public sector banks and BSRBs. These instructions inter-alia, include :

(i) Lead Banks in the 10 districts (Names of these Districts are given in the Statement given below identified as having a very large concentration of the minority community will organise special recruitment training centres where candidates belonging to Minority Communities will be given fulfilled training to enable them to become successful in clerical tests conducted by BSRBs;

(ii) Establishment of centres in State Capitals for pre-recruitment training by Co-ordinating Bank for the state for recruitment of officers