

As different points of the TPP are not mutually exclusive and are multi-dimensional, specific targets for bank lending have not been assigned. As regards subsidy allocation and disbursement, information readily available relating to the Integrated Rural Development programme is as under :

(i) Subsidy disbursed during 1986-87	Rs. 613.38 crores
(ii) Subsidy allocation for the current financial year	Rs. 613.64 crores
(iii) Subsidy disbursed during the first quarter of the current financial year (upto July 1987)	Rs. 88.54 crores
(iv) Number of persons assisted during the first quarter of the current financial year (upto July 1987)	Rs. 5.38 lakhs

#### Visit of US Delegation

4229. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :  
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :  
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a high-level US trade delegation visited India on 6 November, 1987;
- (b) if so, the points discussed;
- (c) whether any trade agreement has been reached; and
- (d) its impact on bilateral trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). A high level trade delegation from the office of the United States Trade Representative visited India between 4th and 6th Nov., 1987. The two sides exchanged views on multi-lateral trade issues being discussed under the Uruguay Round at Geneva as well as bilateral trade issues of interest to both countries.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Rate of Interest on Loans under Self Employment Scheme

4230. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether banks are charging high rate of interest and security for loans above Rs. 25000 sanctioned under the self employment scheme as per guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India;
- (b) whether this is creating difficulties to unemployed youths; and
- (c) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Under the Self-Employment Scheme for Unemployed Youth (SEEU), initially a composite loan not exceeding Rs. 25,000 per borrower was available for undertaking self employment ventures in industry, service and business sectors. The rate of interest was fixed at 10% for backward areas and 12% in other areas. While continuing the scheme for 1986-87, the ceiling per unit of loan for industrial sector was increased to Rs. 35,000 and for business sector was reduced to Rs. 15,000. It was also then decided that loan exceeding Rs. 25,000 for industrial ventures would carry interest at the rate of 12.5% for loans in backward areas and 13.5% in other areas. Banks had also the discretion to take collateral security/third party guarantee if considered necessary for loans exceeding Rs. 25,000 as per Reserve Bank of India guidelines for loans under small scale industries sector. In June 1987, the position was reviewed and banks were advised not to demand collateral security/third party guarantee for loans sanctioned under SEEUY scheme including loans exceeding Rs. 25,000 and upto Rs. 35,000. for industrial ventures. The original rate of interest viz. 10% p.a. for specified backward areas and 12% p.a. for other areas for loans upto Rs. 35,000 for industrial ventures were also restored.

#### Enemy Property Claims

4231. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of compensation given as ex-gratia payment to displaced persons from Pakistan by the Custodian of Enemy Property for India upto now;

(b) the break-up of the total payments made to the claimants separately from Pakistan and Bangladesh;

(c) the number of such claimants from Bangladesh whose cases are still pending with the Custodian of Enemy Property for India and the maximum period of such pendency; and

(d) whether any time limit has been fixed for finalising those claims expeditiously ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) to (d). Ministry of Commerce administers payment of ex-gratia grant to Indian nationals/companies whose assets were seized by the Government of Pakistan during Indo-Pak conflict of 1965 and who registered their claims with the Custodian of Enemy property within the stipulated date *i.e.* 31.7.1977. The relief is given in the form of ex-gratia grant from the Consolidated Fund of India at the rate of 25% of the verified value of claims. Upto September, 1987 an amount of Rs. 60 30 crores has been disbursed. No Break up of payment made to claimants separately from Bangladesh and Pakistan, has been maintained. Similarly no break up of claimants from Bangladesh or Pakistan is maintained. In all (upto September, 1987) 12778 claim cases, which include cases of claimants from Bangladesh as well as from Pakistan, remain to be processed. The claims were registered on different dates upto 31.7.1977. It is expected that pending claims will be disposed of in 2 to 3 years time.

#### Import Duty on N-Paraffin

4232. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :  
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import duty on N-

Paraffin has been slashed from 110 to 30 per cent;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefore; and

(c) the estimated loss to the Government thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b). Import Duty on N-Paraffin which was 158% *ad-valorem* plus Rs. 250 per metric tonne was reduced with effect from the 20th October, 1987 to 30% *ad-valorem* when it is imported for the manufacture of Linear Alkyl Benzene. This step was taken in the interest of indigenous production of Linear Alkyl Benzene.

(c) The revenue implication of this exemption would depend on the quantity of N-Paraffin actually to be imported and on the manufacturing programme. However, on an estimated quantity of 30,000 tonnes in an year, the revenue involved would be of the order of Rs. 24.76 crores in a full year.

#### Smuggling by Customs Officers

4234. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of customs officers employed at air and sea ports arrested in connection with smuggling or abetment to smuggling activities during the last twelve months by enforcement agencies;

(b) the number of cases of smuggling and violation of COFEPOSA reported by the Customs authorities during the last twelve months and of how much value;

(c) the present position of the cases failing under (a) and (b) above; and

(d) the total number of cases involving smuggling and seizures that are yet to be decided, since when they are pending and steps taken to expedite the finalisation thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on