

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) A copy of the upto date Guidelines for issue of debentures by public limited companies is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3560/86.]

RBI Instructions to Improve Working of Rural Branches of Commercial Banks

5063. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that at a recent meeting between the Reserve Bank of India authorities and the Commercial Bank Executives the performance of the rural branches of commercial banks was reviewed ;

(b) if so, whether some drastic changes in the style of functioning of the rural branches of commercial banks have been decided upon ; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India to improve the working ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) On the basis of discussions Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had with the chief Executives of commercial banks, the banks have, inter alia been advised by RBI to (i) observe one day in the rural branches as a non-public business working day to enable the branch managers to spend the day exclusively for field visits for the purpose of contacting their present and potential clientele, deposit mobilisation monitoring credit utilisation, recovery and appropriate guidance to the borrowers (ii) review the working of the existing rural branches with a view to effect changes in regard to the status of the branches wherever warranted, (iii) devise appropriate system to ensure that branch managers play an effective role etc.

Release of Indian Prisoners in Bangladesh

5064. SHRI SOMNATH RATH Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any efforts have been made by Government of India for release of the Indian prisoners in jails of Bangladesh ;

(b) if so, the results thereof ; and

(c) how many Indian prisoners are there in Bangladesh jails and under what offence and for how many years ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) Yes Sir. The Indian High Commission in Dhaka promptly takes up with the Government of Bangladesh all cases of Indian nationals under detention and seeks consular access with a view to obtaining their release as soon as such cases come to light.

(b) The number of persons released in this way in recent years is given below :

Year	No. of persons released
1983	5
1984	13
1985	8
1986	130

(c) According to information available, the following Indian nationals are still under custody in Bangladesh :

Year	No. of Indian Prisoners	Alleged Offence
1983	5	1 for forged currency notes, under trial 1 for overstaying (applied for local citizenship) 2 for travel without valid documents 1 for property dispute
1984	1	
1985	2	1 for carrying explosives 1 for illegal entry
1986	23	23 —Dacoity cases