

Liabilities of Certificate holders in Wembley Chit Fund Finance Private Limited

6386. SHRI RAM SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of total liabilities of the certificate holders in "Wembley Chit Fund Finance Private Limited," in Government custody;

(b) the amount invested by the Company in Government securities and in the nationalised bank (separately);

(c) the total business given by the Wembley Chit Fund and Finance Private Limited till the end 1979-80; and

(d) what is the security of the money of certificate holders invested in the Wembley Chit Fund?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Reserve Bank has reported that this Company is conducting only conventional chit business and it does not issue certificates to its members/public.

(b) This Company has not made any investment in Government securities. As on 31-3-80, it had Rs. 2.38 lacs in fixed deposit in a nationalised bank with a lien in favour of Registrar of Chits as required under the law. It had also Rs. 3.59 lacs in current account with a nationalised bank on the same date.

(c) Total chit business conducted by the company till 31-3-80 i.e. its total turnover is Rs. 83.90 lacs.

(d) Does not arise in view of the answer of part (a) of the question.

Liquor preparation from Cashew Apple in Goa

6387. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'liquor' preparation from cashew apple in Goa has potential for export in foreign Market;

(b) whether Government propose to provide technical and financial assistance in refinement in taste and smell and improvement in packing to the producers of this alcohol beverage for foreign Markets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Because of the established predominant position in the liquor market of popular brands of liquor manufactured in the developed countries, it is difficult to assess the export potential of liquor preparation from cashew apple in Goa.

(b) and (c). Financial assistance is available on export of Indian made foreign liquor including liquor preparation from cashew apple @ 15 per cent of the f.o.b. value. There is no proposal at present under the Market Development Assistance Scheme to provide technical assistance in refinement in taste and smell and improvement in packing to the producers of this alcoholic beverage for foreign markets.

Coffee Production

6388. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coffee produced in India during 1979-80;

(b) the share of Karnataka therein;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to bring more areas under coffee production, improvement in yield and offer of assistance to the producers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The estimated production of coffee during 1979-80 is 1,50,000 tonnes.

(b) The share of Karnataka in the above production is around 1,02,000 tonnes.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Coffee Board has drawn up a perspective Plan for coffee development which envisages expansion of coffee to the extent of 1,30,000 hectares by 1993-94, of which 72,000 hectares would be in non-traditional areas and 58,000 in traditional areas. Of this, 38,400 hectares of expansion is envisaged under the Sixth Plan. The Coffee Board has supporting programmes for improvement in yield and assistance to producers which comprise supply of inputs, extension services, ensuring credit facilities, establishment of coffee demonstration farms and research stations and provision of interest subsidy, replanting subsidy and expansion subsidy, as also improvement of the marketing infrastructure like storage, warehousing and curing capacities.

Upgrading of Cities

6389. SHRI DAULATSINGHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received for upgrading of cities;

(b) whether any Committee has been appointed to look into the matter;

(c) the criteria adopted for upgrading cities;

(d) whether Gujarat State has also recommended for upgrading of Jamnagar city;

(e) if so, the decision taken by Government; and

(f) if not, whether Government propose to consider for its upgradation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Representations have been received from time to time for upgradation of different cities for the payment of House Rent Allowance and Compensatory (City) Allowance to the Central Government employees posted there.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f). Cities are classified for the payment of these allowances on the basis of their population, according to the 1971 Census Report. Certain cities whose 1971 population was mar-

ginally short of the minimum required for such classification have, however, recently been classified/upgraded on the basis of their mid-census population estimates furnished by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India. As the population of Jamnagar urban agglomeration according to the 1971 census was only 2,27,640 which falls far short of the minimum of over 4 lakhs required for classification as a B-2 class city, it could not be upgraded to B-2 class.

System for Rotating Customs Airport Staff

6391. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any system under which the Custom Airport Staff are rotated at large Airports like Palam and Bombay from Departure to Arrival Lounges to ensure favouritism being extended to the passengers;

(b) if so, what and what is the time-lag after which such rotations are made;

(c) whether there is any check on the Airlines staff who are not on duty to enter the Arrival and Departure Lounges where they help interested parties in customs clearance in collusion with the Customs Staff; if so, the details and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any check on the Customs staff in Departure Lounge carrying gifts received by them from alighting passengers in consideration for the assistance rendered to them in customs clearance; if so, the details and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) It is presumed that the Question is regarding a system of rotation to ensure against favouritism being extended to the passengers. Having regard to the exigencies of work and other relevant considerations, the Customs staff posted at the airports is rotated between Departure and Arrival Lounges and the other posts manned by Customs officers. There is also sometimes a surprise element in such rotations.