

mercial Banks in Uttar Pradesh was Rs. 207/- as compared to the national average of Rs. 249/-

[English]

Development of NHs. In W.B.

4229. SHRI ATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes approved by the Union Government for the development of the National Highways and Bridges in West Bengal during the year 1992-93; and

(b) the funds released therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Eleven number of National Highway works have been approved at a cost of Rs. 99.54 lakhs during 1992-93 so far

(b) An amount of Rs. 22.00 crores has been released during 1992-93 for the ongoing works including works approved during the current year.

Advance by Vaysya Bank

4230. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced by the Vaysya bank during the last three years; and

(b) the share of such advance to priority sector out of the total advances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) and (b). According to Vysya Bank Ltd., the total amount advanced by them during the last 3 years and the share of advances to the priority sector out of the same were as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Advances</i>	<i>Priority Sector Advances</i>	<i>Percentage of Col. (3) to Col. (2)</i>
1990	459.26	185.09	40.30
1991	542.35	220.88	40.72
1992	660.50	264.02	39.97

News International Coffee PACT

4231. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of coffee producing countries of the world are considering to form a new international coffee pact in immediate near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact likely to be on export of coffee from the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). ICO had constituted in April, 1992 a negotiating group open to all members of International Coffee Organisation to prepare the draft of a new agreement. Producer and Consumer members of ICO have met several times during the last one year under the auspices of the ICO to negotiate

and finalise a new International Coffee Pact. India which is a producer member of the ICO, has been participating in the meetings and discussions. Several new concepts like selective adjustment of quotas, modified system of controls etc., may have to form part of the new agreement if and when finally concluded. No final consensus has emerged on the terms of the new agreement. Hence it is premature to hazard the impact on Coffee exports from India.

Over bridges in Kerala

4232. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Kerala for construction of overbridges in the State; and

(b) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No proposal for construction of overbridges in Kerala has been received from the State Government of Kerala, during the current year.

Employees Provident Fund Scheme in Goa

4233. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees contributing towards the Employees Provident fund Scheme in Goa as on March 31, 1992 and their total annual contribution;

(b) the manner in which the amount so collected is utilised for productive purposes with optimum returns to the members; and

(c) the details of the structural changes/reforms envisaged under the scheme to make it more beneficial to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) As on 31.3.1992, there were 37,497 EPF subscribers in Goa. The amount of contribution received during 1991-92 was Rs. 12.70 crores

(b) and (c). The contributions received in respect of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme are at present invested in Government securities and Special Deposit Account of the Central Govt. Recently it has been decided to make investment in the Banks also so as to allow interest to the subscribers on the basis of their monthly running balance w.e.f. 1.4.1993.

Charges on Export Cargos

4234. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received some requests to end discriminatory charges on export cargos;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from the Northern India Shippers Association and the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts in respect of discriminatory charges on export cargoes on inland movement by rail and ocean freight..

(c) There is no discrimination in respect of either prail freight or port charges for export and import containers. As far as ocean freight is concerned, the Government has no say the matter. The ocean freight is fixed by the Shipping lines on the basis of various considerations like distance, cargo mix, volume of cargo, turn round of vessels, port charges etc. It is therefore, not possible to have uniformity in rates from various Indian Ports to Overseas destinations.