

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has received any request from co-operative banks to the effect that bridge loans sanctioned against firm commitments from term lending institutions should be clubbed only with the medium term-loans sanctioned under Credit Authorisation Scheme while ascertaining the availability of long term resources for further lending;

(b) if so, whether NABARD has since considered the request and decision has since been taken and if not, the reasons for delay; and

(c) the time by which a decision will be taken in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development had received a representation from the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank in August, 1983 requesting that the bridge loan sanctioned against firm commitment of term loan should not be clubbed with medium term loans sanctioned under the Credit Authorisation Scheme while ascertaining long term resources. This was examined and the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank was advised in November, 1983 that its request cannot be acceded to.

#### Use of Energy Saving Technology in Aluminium Industry

5113. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether aluminium industry is considering use of energy saving technology to reduce its heavy power consumption;

(b) whether due to such heavy power consumption, Indian aluminium is costlier than abroad; and

(c) the steps Government have recommended for adoption by aluminium industry to reduce costs ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Production of aluminium in India is costlier mainly because of higher power tariff and partly on account of comparatively

higher consumption of power as well as costs of some other input materials.

(c) Government have urged the aluminium industry to reduce power consumption and increase efficiency.

#### Representation from Delhi Wooden Cabinet Manufacturers Association Delhi for exemption of excise duty

5114. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Wooden Cabinet Manufacturers Association, Delhi to exempt T. V. Cabinets (wooden/sunmica) from the central excise duty; and

(b) if so the details of the representation and when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Association has sought exemption from excise duty in respect of T. V. cabinets (wooden/sunmica) on various grounds. The representation is under examination.

#### Production Cost of Coffee in Kerala

5115. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of coffee per hectare in India Statewise and varieties planted;

(b) whether Kerala has the highest production cost per hectare for coffee;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to help the cultivators ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). According to the last report of the Cost Accounts Branch, finalised in August, 1982, the cost of cultivation per hectare in respect of the three major coffee growing States was computed as under :

**Cost of Cultivation in Rs. per Hectare**

	Big/Medium Estates	Private Estates	Small Estates
<b>(A) Arabica</b>			
Karnataka	6347	6986	6661
Tamil Nadu	5604	4541	5004
Kerala	2202	—	—
<b>(B) Robusta</b>			
Karnataka	4118	5207	5211
Tamil Nadu	2999	—	—
Kerala	4049	4294	4663

The yields projected on the basis of samole survey were as under :—

(Yield in kgs./Hect.)

	Big/Medium Estates	Private Estates	Small Estates
<b>(A) Arabica</b>			
Karnataka	2267	1022	1002
Tamil Nadu	664	512	690
Kerala	659	—	—
<b>(B) Robusta</b>			
Karnataka	1283	1071	906
Tamil Nadu	674	—	—
Kerala	884	909	708

Action has been initiated for conducting a fresh cost study.

(d) Besides implementing schemes for the benefit of all the coffee growers, viz. project for soil testing/pest surveillance, seed multiplication, opening of coffee demonstration farms, strengthening of research/extension facilities, replanting/crop hypothecation/hire purchase loans, expansion subsidy etc., the Coffee Board has been implementing the following schemes specially for the benefit of small coffee growers :

(i) Intensive cultivation/extension/special purpose loans.

(ii) Replanting subsidy.

(iii) Interest subsidy.

The small growers schemes are of particular importance for Kerala which has the highest percentage area of land with small coffee growers.

**Expansion of Banking Facilities to Backward Areas**

5116. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the expansion of banking facilities to backward areas, particularly in the State of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The branch licensing policy for the period April 1982—March 1985 did envisage priority for expansion of banking facility in relatively backward and under banked areas. The branch expansion policy for the Seventh Plan period is yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

**Unsold Cotton Stocks with Cotton Corporation**

5117. SHRI SATYANARAYAN PAWAR : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether large stocks of unsold cotton have been lying with the Cotton Corporation for a long time; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Central Public Sector Projects in Visakhapatnam**

5118. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the investments so far made in the