

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the particulars of the major Pan-tobacco manufacturing companies in the country;

(d) the details of their initial and present capital; and

(e) the measures being taken to check the evasion of taxes by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Credit Deposit Ratio in Various Nationalised Banks

2770. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing the credit deposit ratio of various nationalised banks in different States during the last three years, bank-wise, State-wise and year-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Information to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

News-Item Captioned "Bank Official Held"

2771. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "bank official held" appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of 17 January, 1985 bringing out the daring and outrageously fraud on the nationalised bank;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been looked into and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such systematic frauds in banks and come to the notice of Government earlier too;

(d) if so, the reasons why sufficient safeguards had not been provided to check the recurrence of such frauds in future; and

(e) the steps now being taken to put stop to such frauds in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The news-item has been seen by the Government.

(b) Indian Bank has reported that one of its officers, Shri Raj Kumar Gautham, in collusion with another person committed the fraud at its branches at Greater Kailash (New Delhi), Gaziabad and New Delhi main. The total amount involved in the fraud is Rs. 3.12 lakhs out of which a sum of Rs. 1.95 lakhs (approx.) has been seized by the police. A sum of Rs. 0.87 lakhs is lying in the fictitious accounts opened by the suspects. The police had arrested Shri Gautham along-with his accomplice, but he was later released on bail. He has been placed under suspension by the bank with effect from 18-1-85.

(c) to (e). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that such frauds are thrown up by inter-branch reconciliation of accounts and banks have systems to detect such frauds. The RBI has further reported that although the existing safeguards are adequate to detect such frauds, yet after studying the modus operandi adopted in perpetrating frauds, it issues instructions/guidelines to banks from time to time so as to check the incidence of bank frauds.

Working of Cotton Corporation of India

2772. SHRI BEZHAWADA PAPI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India was set up with a view to help the cotton growers interest including increased production and remunerative prices;

(b) if so, whether these objectives have been fully achieved;

(c) whether a price @ Rs. 600 a quintal of cotton was paid to the Tamil Nadu Cotton growers in 1984-85 and whether cotton growers of Andhra Pradesh were offered only Rs. 500 per quintal;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to set up a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament to look into the above matter and the functioning the CCI ?

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

(a) and (b). The most important objective of the Cotton Corporation of India is to lend support to the cotton growers. The Corporation enters the market right from the beginning of arrival of cotton and purchases cotton at ruling market prices in competition with other buyers. Its presence in the cotton market ensures remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. The Corporation has also been designated as the agency to render price support operations in the event of the prices of cotton falling below the support level announced by the Government. In fulfilment of this objective, the Corporation has purchased a quantity of 34,790 bales from Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh at support prices upto 8 April, 1985.

(c) and (d). The prices of cotton vary from variety to variety. Support price for DCH-32 and MCU-5 varieties of Kapas have been fixed at Rs. 600 and Rs. 555 per quintal respectively and the same price has been paid by the Cotton Corporation of India while effecting purchases under price support operations in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh without making any discrimination.

(e) No, Sir.

Opening of Branch of United Commercial Bank at Jangla, District Simla

2773. **SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Commercial Bank has proposed to open a branch office at Jangla, District Simla; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which this branch office or the bank is going to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A licence has been issued to United Commercial Bank on 5-3-1985 for opening a branch at Jangla District Simla, Himanchal Pradesh. The bank has been advised to open the branch as early as possible.

Incentives to Silk Exporters of Bihar

2774. **SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND

SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of silk exported from Bihar to various countries during the last two years; and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to increase incentives to these silk exporters ?

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

(a) Export of natural silk goods from Bihar is made mainly through the Bhagalpur certification centre of the Central Silk Board. During the last two years figures of export from this Centre are as under :

Year	Qty. (lakh sq. mtrs.)
1982-83	8.12
1983-84	11.92

(b) Government have provided various incentives which are reviewed from time to time.

Capacity Utilisation of Steel Plants

2775. **SHRI JAGANNATH PATTAIAK :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the public sector steel plants in the country have been found working below capacity with regard to production of hot metal, ingot steel and saleable steel during the Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the poor show and the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). SAIL plants have not been able to operate at their rated capacities mainly because of constraints of adequate and the right quality of coking coal, deterioration in other raw materials, inadequate power supply, obsolete technology and ageing of plants. To achieve the rated capacity, efforts are being made to ensure adequate inputs and of the right quality, improvement in raw materials, better maintenance and technological upgradation by refurbishing and revamping of the steel plants.