

1985-86 - Assam (99%), Gujarat (98%), Haryana (99%) Orissa (90%).

1986-87 - Andhra Pradesh (96%), Karnataka (93%), Maharashtra (99%), Manipur (93%), Orissa (97%), Tamil Nadu (83%), Tripura (82%), D&N Haveli (70%), Goa Daman & Diu (96%), and Mizoram (42%)

The State Governments have not been able to achieve the targets because of difficulties in energising people's participation and inadequate infrastructure in the field.

(c) and (d). The Monitoring and evaluation is being streamlined by computerised data in each State/U.T. An operational Guide Book has been prepared for this purpose.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Lottery Tickets by State Bank of Indore

508. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Indore Bank Lottery Ka Mohra Karamachari Neta Maun" appearing in the daily 'Bhaskar' of 25 May, 1985 published from Indore, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this connection;

(c) the total value of lottery tickets sold by various branches of State Bank of Indore and the rules under which they sold these tickets;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Bank had issued some circulars in connection with the sale of lottery tickets and if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the number of officers, union leaders who were found involved in this scandal and the action taken against them and the present position of this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a). Gover-

ment have seen the News Report referred to in the Question.

(b) to (e). The State Bank of Indore have reported that a circular was issued from their Head Office to their 162 branches and 2 Zonal Offices in May, 1985 to sell lottery tickets on behalf of Indore Table Tennis Trust to help them in raising funds for construction of Table Tennis-Stadium at Indore. The total value of lottery tickets sold by Bank's various branches was Rs. 4,19,680/-.

As per the Banking Regulation Act, a Bank can do things as are incidental or conducive to the promotion or advancement of its business. The State Bank of Indore have reported that this activity was aimed at mobilising deposits for the bank and also creating goodwill by supporting the cause of promoting sports in the area of Bank's operations. The service was rendered without charging any commission.

The Bank have further reported that there was no scandal in the sale of lottery tickets and as such the question of involvement of anyone does not arise.

[*English*]

Rise in Rate of Inflation

509. DR. V. VENKATESH:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the poor and middle class are badly affected by the rise in the rate of inflation;

(b) if so, the reasons for the escalating inflation; and

(c) the step taken to check the rate of inflation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). The pressure on prices during the current financial year has been mainly caused by

weak monsoon for the fourth year in succession which has adversely affected the production and availability of many items of common consumption like foodgrains, fruits and vegetables edible oils and tea.

(c) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to contain inflation both on the demand and supply side. These, inter alia, include strengthening of the public distribution system for essential commodities, supply of foodgrains to weaker sections under special schemes, regulated releases of sugar and edible oils and mopping up of excess liquidity in the system.

New Schemes for Agricultural Financing

510. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have introduced some new schemes for agricultural financing for rearing sheep, goats and other live stock;

(b) if so, whether some requests have been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for such help; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Issue of National Savings Certificates Through Banks

511. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Savings Certificates are issued through nationalised banks in the country; and

(b) if not, whether Government have any proposal for issuing these National Savings Certificates through nationalised banks to reduce work on post offices and to avoid inconvenience to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

Cases Filed for Evasion of Excise Duty

512. SHRI H.M. PATEL:
SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have filed suits against several firms for the evasion of excise duty since January 1986; and

(b) if so, the details of such cases.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) It is presumed that by the term 'suits' the Hon'ble Members are referring to prosecutions. It is a fact that the Government have launched prosecutions against several firms/ individuals for evasion of central excise duty since January, 1986.

(b) During the period January to December 1986, 177 prosecutions have been launched and during the period January to June, 1987 41 prosecutions have been launched. These prosecutions have been launched against firms/ individuals for evasion of central excise duties through various means e.g. suppression of production, surreptitious removal of goods without payment of duty, under valuation of products, misuse of exemptions., etc.

Adoption of villages for Rural Development by Nationalised Banks

513. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for adoption of villages for rural development by nationalised banks;

(b) the total number of villages adopted so far by nationalised banks for rural development;