

opened at all the places; and

(b) in not, the names of the places where these branches have not been opened and the reasons therefor and the time by which the branches of the said bank will be opened at these places.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K.GADHVI) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that on the basis of list of identified centres received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, licences for 23 centres have been issued to Pithoragarh Regional Rural Bank for opening its branches in Pithoragarh District during the period of the current Branch Licensing policy which is upto March 1990. Out of these 23 centres, according to information available with RBI, the Regional Rural Bank has been branches at 16 centres. The remaining 7 centres where branches have not been opened, so far, are Barām , Jaurasi, Tejam Madkot, Chaudmanya, Bhagichaura and Sukhidang. RBI has advised the bank that the branches at the allotted centres should be opened in a phased manner during the remaining period of the current policy upto March, 1990. As such, it is not possible at this stage to indicate the likely date of opening branches at the remaining 7 centres.

Tea Cultivation Centre in Himachal Pradesh

7072. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a research centre has been set up in Himachal Pradesh for the development of tea cultivation;

(b) if so, when this centre was established and the details of the work done by this

centre in the field of tea development;

(c) whether his Ministry propose to open a branch of the research centre in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the location thereof and the time by which this branch will be opened; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Tea Board's grant-in-aid research scheme "Improvement of Tea Culture in Himachal Pradesh" is in operation with the Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishva Vidyalaya, Palampur. Besides, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, under the Ministry of Science & Technology has established a multidisciplinary research complex at Palampur where research on tea is also carried out.

(b) Tea Board's research scheme was originally initiated in 1962 Major fields of researches cover agronomy, nutrition chemistry of tea, clonal works, plant protection and expansion services.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

(e) Tea Board has opened an office at Lucknow for the overall development of the tea industry in hilly areas at Uttar Pradesh. This office will help planting of tea by establishing clonal nurseries introducing scientific cultural practices and also financial inputs of subsidy and loan.

6th Meeting of National Water Development Agency

7073. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: