

(b) The opium exported and the export prices during the above period were as follows :—

Year	Exports (in tonnes)	Export price rate (per unit of morphine per kg. in US\$)
1976-77	1017	4.9
1977-78	978	6.0
1978-79	852	6.0
1979-80	796	6.0

(An incentive quantity rebate of 25% was allowed for additional purchases made over certain base quantities).

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) to (f). The exports of opium from India have fallen on account of stiff competition from countries producing poppy straw and its concentrate and the world over-supply situation of opiate raw-materials. This has led to accumulation of stocks of opium in the country. In order to induce the buyers to make larger purchases of Indian opium, the export price of opium has been reduced and incentive rebates have been offered to promote the exports.

Import of Coconut Oil

909. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :
SHRI K.A. RAJAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present import policy with regard to coconut oil;

(b) whether a private party was allowed to import coconut oil against the accepted policy ;

(c) if so, the quantity and the details and the reasons for allowing such import ;

(d) whether Government have received representation requesting for total ban of import of coconut oil ; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Import of coconut oil is canalised through State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. There is also a limited provision for its import as import replenishment under the import policy for Registered Exporters.

(b) and (c). There have been some imports of coconut oil by private parties. Complete information in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) There is no proposal for any imports being made by the canalising agency during 1981-82.

Loans to poors by Nationalised Banks
910. SHRI BHERAVADAN K. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether nationalised banks are showing complete apathy to the poorer in their demand for loans ;

(b) whether it is fact that for this they (Banks) give excuses of arrears and non-recovery ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that so far big merchants and industrialists are concerned the loan ratio is maintained and even enhanced while in case of poorer and small people it goes on declining?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT):
(a) and (b). No, Sir. Until recently, banks were required to ensure that at least 1/3rd of their total lendings flowed to the borrowers under priority sector which includes agriculture, small scale industries, retail trade and small business, professional and self-employed persons and education. Banks have since been advised in April 1980 that they should now aim at raising the proportion of their advances to priority sector to 40% of their aggregate credit by 1985. On the basis of the recommendations of the Working Group on the Modalities of the Implementation of Priority Sector Advances and 20-Point Economic Programme, banks have been advised in October 1980 that a significant portion of the credit should be allocated to the beneficiaries of 20-Point Programme. 'Weaker Sections' have been identified in priority sector advances which are as under :

(a) Agriculture and other allied activities

(i) Small and marginal farmers with land holding of 5 acres and landless labourers and

(ii) Persons engaged in other activities whose borrowal limits for such activities do not exceed Rs. 10,000/-.

(b) Artisans, Village & Cottage Industries and Small Scale Industries

Artisans, village and cottage industries and small scale units with credit limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 25,000/-.

(c) Other categories of priority sectors

Single vehicle operators as also those enjoying credit limits of Rs. 25,000/- or less may be considered as weaker sections.

The banks are required to ensure that their advances to the weaker sections under agriculture and allied activities should reach to a level of at least 50% of the total direct lending to agriculture (including allied activities) by 1983. Similarly, their advances to weaker sections under small scale industry should constitute 12.5% of total advances by 1985.

(c) No, Sir. Bank advances to poorer and small people are classified under Priority Sectors. Over the years, advances to these sectors have shown a steady increase as may be seen from the statement given below. Correspondingly percentage of advances to other borrowers like large traders, large industries etc. have declined.

Scheduled Commercial Banks advances to priority sectors. (Rs. in crores)

As on the last Friday of	Small Scale Industries	Agriculture	Other Priority Sectors	Total Priority Sectors	Non-Priority Sector	Total bank credit
June, 1969	286	188	31	505 (14.03)	3094 (85.97)	3599
June, 1978	1828	1851	836	4515 (28.77)	11179 (71.23)	15694
June, 1979*	2333	2459	1116	5908 (30.91)	13208 (69.09)	19116
June, 1980*	2793	3097	1388	7278 (32.52)	15092 (67.47)	23370

Appellate Tribunal Units for Central Excise and Customs

911. SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of Appellate Tribunal units for Central Excise and Customs and what is the number of pending cases before them ;

(b) how many petitions have been disposed of by them so far during last three years and what is the average number disposed of monthly ;

(c) how many more Appellate Tribunals are proposed to be set up in near future ; and

(d) has there been any impact of revenue collection and dispose measures during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA) : (a) Six Benches of the Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal are proposed to be set

up in the near future. Two of them will be Special Benches comprising 3 Members each to deal with classification, valuation and other important matters. The other 4 benches will be of 2 Members each. Since the Tribunal has yet to be set up, the question of any case pending before it does not arise ;

(b) Does not arise ;

(c) The question of whether more benches of the Tribunal need to be set up will be considered in due course, if found necessary, having regard to the workload and rate of disposal.

(d) Does not arise.

Alumina-Cum-Aluminium Complex at Damanjodi, Koraput Orissa

912. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Dr. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made by his Ministry since clearance of the Alumina-cum-Aluminium complex at Damanjodi, Koraput Orissa in details ;

*Data Provisional

Figures in Brackets denote the Percentage to total Bank Credit.