

[English]

Opening of Urban Co-operative Banks in Gujarat

5814. SHRI G.K. SHEKHADA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy being adopted/ followed by the Reserve Bank of India in granting licences to the new urban co-operative banks;

(b) whether Government are aware that urban co-operative banks are required to be opened in Gujarat for the speedy development of co-operative sector and rec removal of poverty; and

(c) whether Government propose to liberalise the licensing policy with regard to opening of urban co-operative banks in the States like Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) to (c). In the State of Gujarat, 285 Urban Co-operative Banks are functioning. In terms of the licensing policy formulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), a new urban bank is allowed to be established in a district which is devoid of urban banking facilities. The policy is implemented in a flexible manner so as not to preclude organisation of an additional bank in the same district provided *inter-alia* the existing bank has achieved viability norms and there is requisite non-agricultural business potential for the subsequent bank to become a viable unit in a given timeframe. The emphasis of the policy is to fill gaps in districts without urban banks and to consolidate the working of existing urban bank on sound and healthy lines without undue proliferation keeping in view the overall banking development in the public sector as well as cooperative sector.

[Translation]

Telecast of Bhojpuri Films on Doordarshan

5815. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of "Bhojpuri films" telecast on Doordarshan during last one year;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to telecast "Bhojpuri films" more frequently; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Two Bhojpuri feature films were telecast on Doordarshan during the last one year (on 1.4.1989 and 31.3.1989).

(b) and (c). Feature films in various regional languages/dialects are telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi, and its linked transmitters on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month. More frequent telecast of Bhojpuri feature films would depend upon the availability of suitable films, keeping also in view the principle of rotation among various languages/dialects.

Assistance to Opium Cultivators in UP

5816. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a complaint from farmers regarding loss of opium cultivation in Uttar Pradesh due to unseasonal rain and insects etc;

(b) if so, the extent of financial assistance proposed to be provided to these farmers;