

Credit advanced by Nationalised and Private Banks for Agricultural Production and for small Scale Industries etc.

1800. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of credit advanced by the nationalised banks since nationalisation and private banks separately for agricultural production, small-scale industries, whole sale trade in general and that of foodgrains in particular, and for other purposes statewide;

(b) whether it is proposed to totally stop bank credit to whole sale trade and to allot at least 50 per cent of the same to the Kisan and landless agricultural labourers; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) State-wise figures of credit advanced by the nationalised banks and the banks in the private sector since nationalisation, separately under all the heads mentioned, are not available. However, the amount of advances of nationalised banks, State Bank and its subsidiaries, and banks in the private sector for agriculture and for small scale industry, as outstanding at the end of June, 1970 state wise, are indicated in the Tables I & II of the Statement laid in the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—4347/70*].

(b) and (c). One of the primary objectives of nationalisation to ensure flow of credit to the hitherto neglected sectors such as, agriculture, small scale industry and other categories of small borrowers in greater measure. With this end in view, the banks have been making every effort to step up their lending to these sectors, which is reflected in the growing volume of credit outstanding under these heads, as indicated in Tables III, IV & V of the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—4347/70*]. At the same time measures have been taken to ensure that credit is not mis-used for unproductive or speculative purposes. Reserve Bank has laid down a proforma for adoption by banks which is intended to improve credit

appraisal procedure and to ensure proper end-use of credit. Reserve Bank has also tightened authorisation of relatively large credit limits. There is, however, no intention to deny credit to trade or industry whether in the large-scale or in the small-scale sector so long as it is required for productive purposes.

12.02 hrs.

RE. CORRESPONDENCE WITH MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: I have a request to make to Members. When they address their communications to me conveying information or their requests about official or parliamentary matters, or any other business of the House, they should address them to 'The Speaker of the Lok Sabha' or 'Dear Mr. Speaker'. They should in no case be addressed to him by personal name. When they are addressed to me personally, they get mixed up with my personal correspondence. I was a little embarrassed when letters from one or two hon. members got mixed up with my personal correspondence and got delayed by one or two days.

I hope Members will kindly keep this in mind.

RE. HEALTH OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): We would like to know what is the condition of health of the Deputy-Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: I am very glad to inform you that Government was good enough to agree to the request, and we have sent him to London for operation.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: We wish him an early recovery.

MR. SPEAKER: Of all persons, I feel his absence very much because he was here to share most of my burden. We very much pray and sincerely hope that he gets all right at the earliest.