

received, country-wise. But generally, there has been a decrease in gross non-export receipts.

Through earlier there was increase of non-export receipts by 50.63% in 1983 over the figure of 1982, in 1984 it has shown a decline of 7.08%. Similarly, about the decline in NRE also, the inflows have registered a decline. One of the reason is that in the Gulf countries when the earlier oil price increase was there, was increase of activity; and remittance were more. With the oil prices softening, the oil countries decided on voluntary restraint on production. That affected their revenue, which affected their developmental activities which, in turn, affected the remittances. Also the point raised by the Hon. Member regarding higher interest by other countries, this also could possibly be a point. But our difficulty was to quantify specifically for Gulf. Generally, this trend has been seen, but it is not as alarming as one would think, but, certainly, that trend is there. About exemption of wealth tax, etc., the income from interest on deposit is free from Indian Income Tax and the balances held in an account are exempt from wealth tax. I am not going into the details; and we are taking care how to improve the situation.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Since the hon. Minister has agreed that there is a decline in the remittances, what measure he would be taking to attract more remittances, increase remittances from abroad? Has his Ministry and plan for productive utilization of foreign remittances which are reaching our country, because much of this money is utilized for non-productive purposes especially for buying land, they invest on building, now productive investment and government is not having a proper plan to direct them for investment. In this connection, I am told that the Kerala Government has submitted a scheme for productive utilization of the non-residents' remittances. Have you received it? Will you have some plan so that their investments are used for productive purposes.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Out of the steps which the

Government has, one is exemption of wealth tax; then the interest rate on new deposits on maturity of one year and above, they are allowed two per cent higher interest than in the current account in the domestic area then they are permitted to buy UTI, invest in Government security, etc. Interest on deposits, interest on government securities etc. can be credited to their account easily. Debit on account for local disbursement is fully permissible. The account holder can easily repatriate balance along with interest thereon outside India at any time without reference to RBI. So, gifts made in India are free of gift tax. So, these are the steps which are there to attract funds from the NRIs.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : What about productive purpose?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : There is a restriction on land and speculative investment

#### Review of District Lead Bank Scheme

\*100. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the functioning of the District Lead Bank Scheme especially with respect to their role in various antipoverty, welfare and development programmes like IRD, NREP and 20 Point Programme;

(b) if so, the result of this review and whether the Lead Bank Scheme is proposed to be extended to the block level;

(c) if so, likely date by which it would be done and each block assigned to a nationalised bank for playing a major role in coordination and implementation of such programmes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and other steps proposed for decentralisation of authority and role of banks below district level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI  
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d)  
A statement is laid on the Table of the  
House.

#### Statement

A review of the Lead Bank Scheme was made by a Working Group constituted by Reserve Bank of India. The terms of reference of this Group covered several important aspects of Lead Bank Scheme including its working with regard to the preparation and implementation of the District Credit Plans which contain bank credit targets for various anti-poverty and developmental programmes. The Working Group observed that there was need for making District Credit Plans more effective by achieving better coordination between financing agencies and developmental functionaries.

The District Credit Plans have also blockwise targets for credit disbursement. There is no proposal for extending the Lead Bank Scheme to block level. Government had, however, suggested the formation of Advisory Committees at block level for ensuring smooth flow of credit to the beneficiaries of IRDP.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : From the statement it appears that the lead bank scheme is only for the districts. Since the implementation of the programme especially the IRDP and the NREP is mainly at the block level, it is necessary that there should be some lead bank scheme at the block level also. District is a very big unit and in the interest of decentralisation, if the lead bank scheme for the block should also be considered ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : There is a district credit plan which is a detailed document having bank-wise, sector-wise programme ; it covers all programmes including special programme like IRDP and other programmes. Here I want to make it clear that we must have positive steps taking into consideration the suggestion made. We are going

to consider your proposal and we are going to make an exercise over it.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : According to the annual plan, so far as HP is concerned, their performance is more than satisfactory ; it is 124 per cent ; considering the all India performance of 99 per cent, definitely their performance is better. But we will consider your suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER : They deserve bonus.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : Under the IRDP scheme the existing norm is to cover 600 families per block. Is there any proposal to extend it to more families under the IRDP ? Also, the nationalised banks insist on security whenever they grant loans. Is there any proposal to tell them not to insist on security ? Moreover, they are opening branches in cities and urban areas only. Is there any proposal to open branches in the rural areas ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I am answering the second part first. So far as the schemes under IRDP are concerned, the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Government have given clear instructions that no bank officer should ask for surety. The word is "ask for"; that it should not be "asked for" loans up to Rs. 5,000. Surety will be asked for with reference to the asset created out of the loan. There are some complaints i.e. why we are monitoring. There clear instructions of the Reserve Bank of India in this respect

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : Even after the Finance Minister visited Tamil Nadu and told them, they are not implementing it.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : We are monitoring it and we are saying that these instructions should be implemented. Now, coming to the first part of the question about the IRDP programme yes, it is true that we have to cover 600 families from each block. From the 5,011 blocks in the country we have to

give a sum of Rs. 3,000 crores. The sum of Rs. 3,000 crores should flow from the banks and the cooperative banks in this programme for a period of five years, under the Sixth Five-Year Plan. Thus, a sum of Rs. 600 crores should flow from the banks and the cooperative banks per years.

So far as the performance up to 1982-83 is concerned, we have been able to give up to Rs. 730.98 crores as against the target of Rs. 600 crores and in the year 1983-84 we were able to give up to Rs. 774 crores against a target of Rs. 600 crores, covering the backlog also. That is the performance.

**SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** With regard to the implementation of the anti-poverty measures, due to lack of coordination between the bank officials and the block officials people are facing lot of problems. Lot of complaints are there. Will the Minister kindly look into these complaints? There are complaints of corruption also. And specially, when the Collector takes action on complaints, then the bank employees go to Trade Unions and resist any action. What action is being taken to protect poor farmers and punish the guilty?

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY :** We are received complaints from different parts of the country that this assistance is not reaching the weaker sections of the people. There is an element of corruption also. Not only that; the guidelines of the Reserve Bank are not followed and some banks followed them after the Government looked into the complaints and issued some instructions. I started moving from place to place to look into them. We are informing the weaker sections that they should not pay even a single paisa to any person. We are telling the bank officials also not to ask for surety.

**DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :** There are so many loan *melas* which have been organised in the country. The hon. Minister has visited Orissa several times

for these loan *melas*, in places like Sambalpur, Dhenkanal and other places. More than 20,000 people have yet to receive their loans up till now under the IRDP and other schemes. What is the percentage of Clerks and other people who get promoted as probationary officers under this scheme? The country has taken up this gigantic task. From 1982 to 1984 the number of banks opened has gone up to four times as compared to the previous years. How is he going to solve the problem *viz.* people who are actually technically and professionally experts in this subject should be promoted and not according to the years of service?

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY :** If you look at the question, the service conditions, promotion, etc. do not arise from this question. Regarding non-distribution of loan to the weaker sections, it has not so far been brought to our notice. If the complaints are given in writing, we will see that it is distributed. If sectioned letters have been issued and there is no disbursement, we will definitely take action.

**Report of the committee for  
change in financial year**

\*101. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received the report from the Committee regarding change in the financial year ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof ;

(c) whether the report has been examined by Government and sent to the States for their opinion ;

(d) if so, the reaction of the States thereto ; and

(e) the time by which the decision will be taken by Government ?