

(b) what are the achievements made by the Bank during the above year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):

(a) and (b) Canara Bank have reported that the target set by the bank for giving loans during the year 1987 in the Annual Action Plan for Orissa State was Rs. 4.76 crores and the achievement made by the bank during the year was Rs. 5.29 crores.

Expansion of business by L.I.C. in Orissa

784. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has expanded its business in Orissa;

(b) if so, what is the total increase in LIC collections in the State during 1987-88;

(c) whether the number of agents has also increased in Orissa; and

(d) what are the details of the role being played by LIC for the economic upliftment of the people of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):

(a) Yes, Sir. The business growth of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Orissa has registered a rise of 41.2 per cent as on 31-3-1988 as against the corresponding figure as on 31-3-1987 on sum proposed basis.

(b) The total collection as reflected by the premium income is Rs. 26.19 crores upto 29-2-1988 as against Rs. 17.97 crores as on 28-2-1987, showing a rise of 45.7 per cent.

(c) Yes, Sir. The number of agents has gone up to 3,951 as on 31-3-1987 from 3,218 as on 31-3-1986 registering an increase of 22.8 per cent.

(d) The investments of LIC in the State of Orissa were of the order of Rs. 212.68 crores as on 31-3-1987, in the form of State Government securities, other approved securities and loans to various organisations, shares and debentures of Companies including loans to Companies.

Trade between India and the USSR

785. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are committed to increase the trade between India and the USSR;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a wide communication gap while dealing with the Soviet organisations; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to sponsor a Central Information Translation and Communication Bureau to bridge this communication gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) During the visit of General Secretary of CPSU, Mr. Michael Gorbachev to India in November, 1986, it was mutually agreed that efforts should be taken on both the Sides to raise the bilateral trade turnover by 2.5 times by 1992 as compared to 1986.

(b) and (c) Both the Sides share the view that the communication gap between the Indian and Soviet organisations, although not wide, should be reduced through various possible steps such as exchange of visit and delegations, holding of specialised exhibitions, participation in trade fairs, market surveys, improved contacts at the level of commercial organisations, institutional links between business organisations including setting up of representative offices, etc. However, there is presently no concrete proposal to set up a Central Translation and Communication Bureau.