

acrylic fibre, in August, 1985. In addition to the above, supply of polyester fibre free of excise/countervailing duty is extended for the manufacture of low priced fabrics manufactured by the National Textile Corporation and by the Handloom sector.

Applications for Urban Cooperative Banks in Maharashtra pending with RBI

1994. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) what is the number of applications from the Urban Cooperative Banks in Maharashtra that are pending with Reserve Bank of India for grant of permission;

(b) what are the causes for delay in granting such permission; and

(c) by when these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Permission by reserve Bank of India urban cooperative banks

1995. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change the policy of Reserve Bank of India of not giving permissions to Urban Cooperative Banks; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) and (b) Under the current policy, new urban cooperative banks will be allowed to be established in the districts

which are devoid of urban banking facilities provided the centres where the urban banks are sought to be established have adequate business potential to sustain the new banks on a viable basis. The current Policy does not therefor, preclude the establishment of new urban cooperative banks.

Coverage of National Leaders and Freedom Fighters through AIR and Doordarshan

1996. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to telecast and broadcast programmes on the lives and contribution to national freedom struggle of the following national leaders and veteran freedom fighters—Maulana Mahmood Hasan, Raja Mahendra Pratap, president, Provisional Indian Republic during the first world war years, Maulvi Barkatullah, Prime Minister of the same Indian Republic, Maulana Ubaidullah, Sindhi, Home and Defence Ministers of the same Government, Maulana Hussain Ahmed Madni and Baba Gurdial Singh of Kama Gata Maru; and

(b) if so, by when such programmes are to be telecast and broadcast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) All India Radio has already given adequate coverage to these freedom fighters in its various programmes. In the National Programme of Features on Kama Gata Maru, an interview was broadcast on the contribution of Baba Gurdial Singh. In the programme on History of Freedom Struggle, the contribution made by Maulana Mehmood Hasan, Raja Mahendra Pratap, Maulvi Barkatullah, Maulana Ubaidullah Sindhi, Maulana Hussain Ahmed and Baba Gurdial Singh of Kama Gata Maru was mentioned. All India Radio Mathura, Delhi and Lucknow have also