

(b) The Central Government is keen to resolve the dispute over the Charter of Demands and have the strike withdrawn through a negotiated settlement as early as possible. However, under the Industrial Disputes Act, the State Governments are the appropriate authority in settling such disputes. The Government of West Bengal have been holding a series of bipartite and tripartite meetings with the representatives of the jute mill management and the labour unions to settle the dispute.

Pavilions of Public Sector Undertakings in Exhibition at Calcutta

2197. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the public sector undertakings under his Ministry which

had set up their pavilions in 'India on March' exhibition held in connection with the 77th Session of All India Congress Committee (I) in Calcutta, and the amount paid by each of them to the organisers of the said exhibition; and

(b) what was the mode of payment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by public sector banks the following banks had participated in the 'India on March' Exhibition held in Calcutta in connection with the 77th Session of All India Congress Committee (I) by taking the space on rent:—

Name of the Bank	Amount and mode of payment
1. State Bank of India	Rs. 15,000 by cross order bankers cheque.
2. United Commercial Bank	Rs. 7,500 by cheque.
3. United Bank of India	Rs. 18,000 by a/c payee cheque.
4. Allahabad Bank	Rs. 1,000 as part payment by a/c payee bankers cheque.

Information relating to LIC, GIC, Financial Institutions etc. is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

West Bengal Government's suggestions for consignment tax

2198. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH BARMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the possibility of raising revenues through sales tax, which is the only elastic source of revenue for the State, is severely limited in West Bengal;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of West Bengal has suggested a consignment tax on such goods when they are sent to other States;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to bring a legislation in this regard;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) to (d) The Central Government are not aware of the difficulties faced by West Bengal in raising revenues through sales tax which is a State subject.

2. However, there were reports from various State Governments to whom the revenues from Central sales tax have been assigned as to large-scale avoidance of Central sales tax leviable on inter-State sales of goods through the device of consignment of goods from one State to another. The Constitution was, therefore,

amended through the Constitution (Forty-Sixth Amendment) Act, 1982 to enable *inter-alia* the levy of tax on inter-State consignment of goods. The matter was discussed in the Chief Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi on 2-11-1983. It was decided in the Conference that a group comprising of the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Rajasthan, under the Chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister, should go into the various issues involved in the levy of the proposed tax on inter-State consignments of goods. The matter is now to be considered by the Group of Chief Ministers.

(e) Does not arise.

Promotional avenues for Air Hostesses

2199. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH

BARMAN;

SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE:

SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the promotional avenues for Air Hostesses in Air-India; and

(b) the number of male and female crew members in Air-India, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) The following grades of posts are available as promotional avenues to Air Hostesses who are recruited in the grade of Rs. 720--1050:--

	Rs.
(1) Senior Check Hostess	720--1300
(2) Deputy Chief Air Hostess	1100--1600
(3) Additional Chief Air Hostess	1400--1800
(4) Chief Air Hostess	1720--2720

Further, upto 9 per cent of the Air Hostesses, on the basis of seniority subject to the rejection of the unfit, can be designated as Check Air Hostesses entitling them to additional allowances of Rs. 200 over their grade pay.

(b) The number of male and female cabin crew members in Air India presently is 923 and 865 respectively.

Bank deposit/loans

2200. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH

BARMAN;

SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total deposits in banks as on the 31st December, 1983; and

(b) what is the amount of bank loans so far given during the last three years to industrialists, landowners, poor peasants, educated unemployed and other sections of the people, separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) Aggregate deposits of all scheduled commercial banks stood at Rs. 59,744 crores as on the last Friday of December, 1983. Advances of these banks amounted to Rs. 39,323 crores as on the date. For last Friday of February 1984 the figures were Rs. 60,148 and Rs. 39,958 crores respectively. Classification of bank advances is not available in the manner asked for. The available provisional data as per the standard sectors classification as at the end of December 1981, 1982 and September 1983 are set out in the Statement.