

also been reminded of the need for early reconciliation of inter branch accounts, effective branch supervision and regular inspections with the object of exercising greater control over the functioning of branches.

Growing danger to security of the country from land, sea and air

•337. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRIMATI AMARJIT
KAUR;

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether adequate arrangements have been made to meet the immediate defence need of the country in view of the growing danger to the security of the country from land, sea and air; and

(b) if so, what measures Government have taken to stepping up the defence capability of the three wings of the Army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b) Government have been closely monitoring all developments effecting our security and have taken appropriate measures to maintain adequate defence preparedness. It would not be desirable to disclose details.

Recognition of Tourism as an industry

*338. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH
HANSPAL: SHRI SURESH
KALMADI;

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

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to accord the status of industry to Tourism;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what additional advantages will accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The question of giving Tourism the status of an industry is considered desirable by the Government in pursuance of the Statement on Tourism Policy made in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd November, 1982. It is the desire of Government to extend such fiscal and other incentives to various segments of the Tourism industry as will be possible, and consistent with one general policy in regard to concessions to industries that earn foreign exchange for the country.

Public financial institutions without directors

•339. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report concerning public financial institutions without Directors, published in the Financial Express dated the 7th February, 1983 and if so, what are the full details of such institutions and reasons for delays in appointments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): Government have seen the news report published in the Financial Express dated 7th February, 1983 under the caption 'Financial bodies without Directors'. The position in respect of constitution of Boards of Directors of public sector banks and various financial institutions is as follows:

(i) The Board of Directors of 20 nationalised banks had already been reconstituted early last year.

(ii) Three new non-official directors in the Board of Directors of Industrial Development Bank of India were appointed on 15-3-83.

(iii) The Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India too has been* reconstituted with effect from 18-3-83.

(iv) The Board of Directors of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has also been since constituted.

(v) Action is presently in hand for early appointment of non-official directors on the Board of Directors of Export-Import Bank of India and for the reconstitution of the Central Board of State Bank of India.

*340. [Transferred to the 25th March, 1983].

Crisis in Polyester crimping industry

@2366. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA-. Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a crisis in the Polyester crimping industry recently;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to prevent the slashing of production by the industry particularly by the independent crimping units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) to (c) There have been a large number of representations from the Crimpers Association since about October, 1982 against increase in fiscal levies on polyester filament yarn including POY as well as pleas for continuance of imports of such yarn on OGL.

The crimping industry depends to a large extent on conversion of im-

ported partially oriented yarn, into texturised filament yarn. A comparison of the margin between the landed cost of POY of popular deniers and the market price of texturised yarn of resultant deniers from April, 1982 to Feb., 1983 does not *prima facie* suggest a crisis situation. The effect of the recent Budget proposal is being watched.

Funds locked up in sick units

@@2367. SHRI N. P. CHENGAL RAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bank funds locked up in sick units have accelerated over the years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that more funds are being frozen in sick units and the quantum of funds seems to be getting larger among a smaller number of units;

(c) whether it is also a fact that according to the figures ending June, 1981 the number of sick units with Bank credit facilities to the tune of Rs. 1 crore and above have risen to 422 with the investment of Rs. 145 crores; and

(d) if so, what is the position up to 1982 and what action is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Details of the amount of outstanding advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks to large, Medium and Small Scale Sick Industrial Units as at the end of December, 1979, December, 1980 and December, 1981 (provisional) are given below:

	(Rs. in crores)
December, 1979	1622.55
December^ 1980	1808.66
December, 1981 (Provisional)	2025.54

@ Previously Unstarred Question 1354, transferred from the 14th March, 1983.

@@ Previously Unstarred Question 1953, transferred from the 17th March 1983.