

(d) if so, to what extent these measures will improve the efficiency of the Banking Sector in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (d) No proposal involving any drastic changes in the administrative set-up of the banking sector as such is at present under consideration. Action is being taken to reconstitute the Boards of Directors of 14 nationalised banks whose present terms are due to expire by the end of this year. In respect of the 6 newly nationalised banks, first Boards of Directors constituted by the Government under section 7(3) of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Ordinance, 1980 are still functioning. These will be replaced by broad-based Boards of Directors as soon as the nationalisation scheme for these banks is finalised. The set-up of banking system is kept under continuous review by the Reserve Bank of India and Government taking into account the needs of specific regions and sectors and to subserve the national objectives.

### **Fair Price Shops**

229. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

SHRI J- K. JAIN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fair price shops required to meet the demands of (i) rural areas; (ii) urban areas for distribution of essential goods;

(b) the State-wise break up of the present number of fair price shops in (i) rural areas; (ii) urban areas; and

(b) by when the rest of the areas are likely to be covered under the Fair-price shops schemes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) At present there are 2,58,661 fair price shops in the country. A statement showing the State-wise break up of the fair price shops giving the rural and urban \* break-up is annexed. The administration of the public distribution system in the State and laying down its infra-structure is the responsibility of each State Government. The Government of India had, however, given broad guidelines to the State Governments to expand the coverage of the system. The guidelines, *inter-alia* recommended the continuance of the area approach for operating the system. The distribution of essential commodities in the urban centres was also sought to cover the student population, particularly those residing in the hostels. In the rural areas it was stipulated that the objective shall be to ensure that every village or a group of villages having a population of 2,000 and above should have a fair price shop. The headquarters of a village panchayat irrespective of its population was to have a fair price shop also. In remote and inaccessible areas, particularly in tribal belts the population coverage of a village or a cluster of villages as the case may be, could be even 1,000. The State Governments were advised to expand the public distribution system on these lines.

## Statement

*Number of Fair price/Ration shops covered by them with Break-up in Urban and Rural Areas*

(Prepared on 16-7-1980)

S. No.	State	Number of fair price shops		
		Urban	Rural	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	4092	18091	22183
2	Assam . . . . .	1580	12786	14361
3	Bihar . . . . .	5412	21697	27109
4	Gujarat . . . . .	2511	6719	9230
5	Haryana . . . . .	939	3635	4574
6	Himachal Pradesh . . . . .	195	2493	2688
7	Jammu & Kashmir . . . . .	432	1068	1500
8	Karnataka . . . . .	3563	10437	14000
9	Kerala . . . . .	1799	9720	11516
10	Madhya Pradesh . . . . .	4439	15560	19999
11	Maharashtra . . . . .	7078	20217	27295
12	Manipur . . . . .	90	435	525
13	Meghalaya . . . . .	292	1180	1472
14	Nagaland . . . . .	64	16	80
15	Orissa . . . . .	2038	11915	13953
16	Punjab . . . . .	1626	5751	7379
17	Rajasthan . . . . .	1746	6719	8465
18	Sikkim . . . . .	..	13	13
19	Tamil Nadu . . . . .	1925	15414	17339
20	Tripura . . . . .	72	673	745
21	Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	6653	25992	32645
22	West Bengal . . . . .	5238	12767	18005
TOTAL (STATES)		51,783	2,03,298	2,55,081

Sl. No.	Union Territories	Number of fair price shops		
		Urban	Rural	Total
23	A&N Island . . . . .	42	150	192
24	Arunachal Pradesh . . . . .	12	98	110
25	Chandigarh . . . . .	158	21	179
26	D&N Haveli . . . . .	..	40	40
27	Delhi . . . . .	18817	274	2161
28	Goa Daman and Diu . . . . .	91	279	369
29	Lakshadweep . . . . .	..	23	23
30	Mizoram . . . . .	83	246	329
31	Pondicherry . . . . .	85	92	117
TOTAL UNION TERRITORIES . . . . .		2357	1223	3580
TOTAL ALL INDIA . . . . .		541,40	204,521	258,661

(3) Includes 2799 ration shops in statutory rationing areas covering a population of 95.9 lakhs

#### **Demands for abolition of Sales Tax**

230. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:  
SHRI JASWANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received representations for the abolition of Sales Tax in order to reduce mal-practices in trading circle and difficulties for customers; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government will explore, with the cooperation of the State Governments, the possibility of reforming the existing sales tax structure into a more modern and effective system in the interests of consumers and traders.

#### **Securing of Economic aid from World Bank's Consortium**

231. SHRI SWAMI DINESH  
CHANDRA:

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government failed to secure from the World Bank's Consortium increased economic aid to meet the deficit, the balance of payment requirements and development needs of the country;

(b) if so, to what extent of the aid was sought and secured by Government as a result of the recent meeting of the consortium; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make good the shortfall?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c) In keeping with the past practice, no specific proposals regarding quantum of aid required by India were made by the Indian delegation to the Consortium meeting held in Paris on July 3 and 4, 1980. During the course of the discussion, however, the worsening of India's terms of trade, consequent deterioration in the balance of payments situation and the prospects of large draw down of reserves were highlighted by the delegation. The Consortium members agreed with this assessment of the situation and appreciated the difficulties involved.