

t (THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.]

Housing loans by the Scheduled Banks

*289. SHRI L. R. NAIK:

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes regarding sanction of loans by the scheduled banks for construction of houses in rural and urban areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that the earlier policy of sanctioning individual loans by the scheduled banks has been discontinued; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Pending examination in depth, by a Study Group, of the broader issue of the role of the banking system in providing finance for housing, the Reserve Bank of India had in June, 1976 issued guidelines to all scheduled commercial banks, making the following categories of schemes eligible for bank finance:

(i) Rural Housing Schemes;

(ii) Housing as well as hostels for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(iii) Family Planning Clinics and Rural Health Centres covered under public health programmes; and

(iv) Urban Housing Schemes for low income groups.

It was provided that generally bank credit should not exceed 40 per cent

t [] English translation.

of each project and may be provided either by way of direct term assistance-and/or subscription to debentures/ bonds guaranteed by Government. Where, however, the schemes provide for sanction of direct loans by banks to the beneficiaries under the schemes, the individual loans should not exceed 80 per cent of the total cost of each tenement/house. It was also provided that the rate of interest on bank credit for promotion of housing schemes and hostels specifically intend for Schedule Castes/Scheduled Tribes should not exceed the rate prescribed under the Differential Interest Rate Scheme, currently 4 per cent per annum. The rate of interest in respect of other categories of housing schemes should be moderate and in keeping with the priority assigned to this activity, the minimum lending rate directive not being applicable to such loans.

(b) Within the above guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India, which continue to be in force, loans can be-sanctioned by the banks.

(c) Does not arise.

Tourist traffic in 1977

*290. SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-DARA MENON:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

SHRI SWAMI DINESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the number of tourists expected during the year 1977 and the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): The number of international tourists expected to visit India during 1977 is estimated at 6,40,000. The amount of