

51 बैंक स्थापित हुए हैं और मंत्री जी इस बात को स्वीकार करेंगे कि बैंक सभी राज्यों में नहीं हैं, कुछ ही राज्यों तक इन की सेवाएं उपलब्ध हैं। तो जब तक सब राज्यों में ग्रामीण बैंकों का विस्तार करने की व्यवस्था नहीं होती तब तक ग्राम में रहने वाले साधारण नागरिक को अगर कर्ज की आवश्यकता हुई तो वह कहाँ से पूर्ति होगी ? इसलिए क्या इस प्रकार से कुछ व्यक्तियों को लाइसेन्सेज देकर कर्ज दे सकने की योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL : The Government has no scheme to entrust the task of meeting these requirements through any private organisations. The Government has already opened 47 regional rural banks in 16 States covering 85 districts and, as I have already said, it is our intention to go on establishing further banks in rural areas. This thing must take some time.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA : Sir, in reply to the question of Mr. Ibrahim Kalaniya, the hon. Minister said that there was no immediate necessity of opening a rural bank in Gujarat. May I know from the hon. Minister how he came to this conclusion and also will he disclose the source of information for the benefit of the House ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL : As I have stated, State Governments were consulted before in the matter of rural banks and the State Government of Gujarat had, at that time, expressed the view that in their State the co-operative organisation was functioning so efficiently that they did not consider it necessary to open rural banks. But the question can always be looked into.

Jorhat Airport

*2. **SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount sanctioned for the construction of the

building for the Jorhat airport during the financial year 1976-77 has lapsed ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take for early construction of the building at the said airport ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) : (a) and (b) An amount of Rs 6.2 lakhs was provided in the Budget grant for 1976-77 for acquisition of land, construction of apron and taxi track and terminal building. The physical possession of the land could only be taken on 11-3-77 after removal of the encroachments. The funds provided for 1976-77 could not, therefore, be utilised. However, a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been provided for this work in the Budget for 1977-78 and the work is likely to be awarded shortly.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN : May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether his Ministry has identified the causes for the inordinate delay in the implementation of the construction of Jorhat airport building ?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : उपसभापति महोदय, इस कार्य के लिए '56 से ही जमीन अधिग्रहण करने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा था। दो बार जमीन मिली लेकिन सुरक्षा विभाग ने उस को अपने उपयोग में ले लिया। उसके बाद तीसरी बार जो जमीन अधिग्रहण करने की कोशिश की गयी तो उस में कुछ एनक्रोचमेंट्स थे उन को हटाने के बाद वह जमीन अभी "77 में उपलब्ध हुई है और इस कारण बिलम्ब हुआ।

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN : May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether this inordinate delay in the implementation of the construction has been caused by the apathy of some irresponsible official of the Ministry ?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : रिकार्ड के अनुसार ऐसा कुछ प्रतीत नहीं होता।