

	(Rs. Crores)
	Deficit (—)
	Surplus (+)
10. Madhya Pradesh	—33.84
11. Maharashtra	—52.99
12. Manipur	+ 0.39*
13. Meghalaya	N.A.*
14. Nagaland	+ 0.17
15. Orissa	— 0.01 <sup>o</sup>
16. Punjab	—19.64
17. Rajasthan	— 3.77
18. Tamil Nadu	—22.97
19. Tripura	— 2.78
20. Uttar Pradesh	+ 3.94*
21. West Bengal	— 11.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>—166.31</b>
	<b>[—193.28]</b>
	<b>[+ 26.97]</b>

Vote on Account Budgets.

Note: The above figures do not include additional resources mobilisation/economy measures announced in the Budget speeches and later.

#### Branches of Nationalised Banks opened in Backward Area of Orissa

\*42. SHRIMATI SARASWATI PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks opened in the backward areas of Orissa State during the last two years;

(b) the number of such branches that are proposed to be opened during the current year; and

(c) the concessions that are admissible to residents of the backward areas in the matter of bank credit ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CH A VAN) : (a) During 1972 and 1973, public sector banks opened 11 and 15 offices respectively in the backward districts of Orissa;

(b) In pursuance of the directive of the Reserve Bank of India, all commercial banks

are now formulating three year rolling plans for branch expansion. Banks are currently engaged in finalising the plan for the period 1974-76. However, the Reserve Bank of India has indicated that as at the end of January, 1974, public sector banks had on hand 12 licences/allotments for opening offices in these districts.

(c) In the districts identified by the Planning Commission as industrially backward as also in the districts in which SFDA/MFAL Projects are under implementation, public sector banks are implementing the Differential Interest Rate Scheme under which small loans for productive endeavours are given to eligible borrowers at a concessional rate of 4% per annum. Besides, industrial projects set up in these backward districts are also eligible for concessional finance from the financial institutions.

#### Report of Committee on disposal of confiscated Luxury Goods

43. SHRIMATI SARASWATI PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision on the Report of the Committee on disposal of confiscated luxury and consumer goods; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K.R. GANESH): (a) and (b) The recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee and Government's decisions thereon are indicated as in the enclosed statement. Decision has been taken on 12 out of 14 recommendations. Action is due on the first two recommendations concerning the sale of consumer goods through departmental retail shops and the quantum of discount to be given to cooperatives lifting such goods. Because of the heavy seizures which are now being made, the problem has assumed new dimensions. Department of Community Development and Cooperation are also concerned in this matter. The whole matter is under close examination before Government take a final view.

## Statement

Sl. Recommendations of the Committee No.	Government's decision
1. Consumer goods including watches should be sold by the Department to consumers through their retail shops, and at a uniform rate of discount of 10% to the Canteen Stores Department and other Cooperatives including the National Cooperative Consumers Federation.	These are under Government's consideration.
2. The departmental retail shops should be run on accepted commercial lines. Like any other shops it should remain open for full working hours without earmarking specified days for individual category of articles.	
3. The idea of sale of watches against foreign exchange appeals. A beginning can be made with a counter in the transit lounges of the ports for sale of confiscated watches against foreign exchange.	Accepted. Orders issued on 14-12-1972 that duty-free shops run by the Indian Tourism Development Corporation in the transit lounges of the international airports may be contacted and such of the watches as are likely to be of interest to the tourists may be made available to those shops for sale.
4. The scheme offered by the Trade for servicing of watches and their distribution through trade channel may be considered by the Government if and when they decide to liberalise the import policy.	Accepted.
5. Watches not found in working condition should be serviced before release for sale provided it is an economical proposition.	Accepted. Orders issued on 14-12-72. In some of the field formations this was already the practice even earlier.
6. Disposal of confiscated conveyances including launches should be done through the departmental machinery.	Accepted. Orders issued on 14-12-1972. This was already the practice in some field formations.
7. The general practice followed in the matter of appropriation of governmental property should also apply in the case of confiscated launches and motor vehicles. The vehicles may also be appropriated in a period of shortage of existing fleet or delays in receipt of supplies.	Accepted. This recommendation was in accordance with the earlier practice.
8. Cloves and other spices have to be treated like any other consumer item and disposed of in the manner recommended for at latter. Where, however, the stocks are heavy, the bulk can be sold by limited auction to actual users.	The existing practice is to sell cloves and other spices like other consumer goods, but where these are not lifted quickly these are sold by limited auction to consumer cooperative societies, import quota holders and actual users.

Sl. No.	Recommendations of the Committee	Government's decision
9.	Nylon and other synthetic yarn should be sold by the department directly to Weavers' Associations/cooperatives and certified actual users in auction. In such cases the import licences of the successful bidders need not be debited.	The recommendation was in accordance with the earlier practice.
10.	The department may in consultation with the Government Mint, formulate an agreed time table for the despatch of gold and silver at quarterly intervals.	Accepted. Instructions issued on 14-12-1972. Even earlier the practice was broadly in accordance with the recommendation.
11.	The department should prescribe a calendar by which they would ensure that all confiscated currencies are deposited in the Reserve Bank of India within a specified time.	Accepted. Orders issued on 14-12-1972.
12.	The Government may consider utilisation of the services of the National Minerals Development Corporation for disposal of confiscated cut and polished precious and semi-precious stones abroad. Other agencies like the Gem Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Trade Development Authority and reputed auctioneers abroad especially in countries like Belgium, France and United Kingdom may also be considered for the disposal of cut and polished precious and semi-precious stones abroad.	Since the agencies mentioned could not arrange sale at reasonable prices the experiment was given up and orders issued on 22-12-1972 and 4-1-1973 for sale of cut and polished stones by auction or sealed tender in the internal market.
13.	The existing arrangement of disposal of arms and ammunition subject to the restrictions imposed under the Arms Act and allied rules may continue.	Accepted. The earlier practice was in accordance with the recommendations.
14.	The Government may examine whether goods originating from specified countries should not be sold after effectively defacing the markings of origin.	Accepted. The existing practice was in accordance with the recommendation.