

the branches located in urban and metropolitan areas are more favourably placed than those located in the rural areas. The performance of each branch has to be examined in the context of the overall setting in which it is functioning. Unlike branches in urban or metropolitan areas, branches in rural areas require longer time to inculcate banking habit among the people residing in their command areas. A large number of the branches in the rural areas have been opened during the last three or four years.

The implementation of the Lead Bank Scheme, restructuring of the administrative set up of banks to provide for greater delegation of powers, simplification of forms and procedures, new schemes for extending finance to small borrowers, training of staff to reorient their attitudes etc. are some of the steps that have been taken to enable the rural bank offices to play an effective role in the economy of the rural areas.

Suspension of Pilots by Indian Airlines

1216. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYA-NARAYANA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Pilots of the Indian Airlines were shorn of their Command and some others were suspended in the massive crackdown by the management of the Indian Airlines on 21st June, 1973 in New Delhi, and

(b) if so, the details in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) (a) and (b) From 21-6-1973 to 24-8-1973, 30 pilots of Indian Airlines were suspended/taken off command for the reasons indicated below

No. of pilots involved	Cause of action	Action taken
1	Violation of Rule 24	Suspended
1	Landing incident	Taken off all flying duties.
2	Heavy Landing	Taken off all flying duties.
2	Unsatisfactory flying	Taken off command.
1	Accident to F-27 aircraft	Taken off command.
23	Below standard in assessment checks.	Taken off command and required to fly as co-pilots until further instructions.

1217. [Transferred to the 30th August, 1973]

Fraud in State Bank of India in Orissa

1218. SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHARY Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state,

(a) whether it is a fact that a fraud involving Rs. 60 lacs took place recently in State Bank of India in Orissa, and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation had conducted an investigation into an allegation that the Agent of the Athagarh Branch of the State Bank of India in Orissa, during the period February, 1969 to August, 1970, had entered into a criminal conspiracy with a few other persons and obtained pecuniary advantages for these persons and for himself. On the basis of the findings on the investigation made by it, the Central Bureau of Investigation has filed 4 charge-sheets under section 120-B read with section 420 IPC and section 5(2) read with section 5(1)(b) and (d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947

in the court of Special Judge Puri on 24th August, 1972 for the trial of the Agent and seven others. The trials in all the four cases have not yet concluded.

Foreign Exchange released by Government for training in Hotel Management

1219 SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE
SHRI GANESH LAL MALI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the total amount of foreign exchange released by Government to those who went abroad for training in hotel management

(b) the number of persons who went abroad for such training and how many of them were sponsored by the Central and State Governments and

(c) whether adequate facilities for such training are not available within the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) (a) and (b) For release of foreign exchange for training in hotel management the policy is to fix a quota every year. Selection of candidates is made by the Department of Tourism. For 1972-73 five students were released foreign exchange of Rs. 71,148. These were private candidates and none was sponsored by the Central or State Governments.

(c) While there are four Regional Institutes of Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition within the country, in view of the shortage of trained personnel in this field opportunities to study abroad are offered to a limited number of students to specialise in the latest techniques of hotel management.

Training Abroad in Computer Operation and Technology

1220 SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE
SHRI GANESH LAL MALI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the amount of foreign exchange granted to persons who went abroad for training in computer operation and computer technology during the last three years.

(b) the number of persons who went abroad for such training and

(c) whether it is a fact that adequate facilities for such training are available within the country if so the reasons for allowing them to go abroad for this training?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir. Government have been advised that adequate facilities for higher studies in this field are not available within the country.

STATEMENT

Year	Number of persons	Exchange released
		(Rs.)
1970 . . .	61	3,79,169
1971 . . .	72	5,79,470
1972 . . .	51	4,36,556
Total	184	13,95,195

NB—Out of these 184 persons, 82 were released no foreign exchange at all and a further 35 were released only small amounts of foreign exchange for incidental expenses as they had scholarship, etc. arrangements to cover their fees and maintenance expenses.

Visits Abroad by Doctors and Engineers

1221 SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH
SHRI GANESH LAL MALI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state