

(b) and (c) No. special schemes as such have been formulated but a number of measures have been adopted by the nationalised banks for the timely grant of loans to farmers.

In order to cut down delay in granting loans to farmers, the nationalised banks have laid down limits up to which Branch Managers themselves are empowered to grant loans to farmers without reference to their head offices. This will especially help small farmers to get loans quickly. The banks have also been advised by the Reserve Bank of India to simplify their procedure for giving loans to farmers and to make available to them copies of their schemes and application forms drawn up in regional languages in an easily intelligible form. The report of the Expert Group appointed by the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India in September 1969 to recommend measures for simplification of procedures for registration of documents and of equitable mortgages, recovery of overdues, etc., will be submitted soon. It is expected that the recommendations of this Expert Group will help speed up the grant of credit to agriculturists.

TARIFF VALUES FOR ALUMINIUM

109. SHRI BHAGWAT DAYAL :

SHRI E. M. SANGMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the withdrawal of tariff values has resulted in representations from secondary manufacturers for re-fixation of tariff values as more excise duty is being collected from them on *ad valorem* basis on their inferior quality aluminium extrusions *vis-a-vis* similar products of superior quality manufactured by primary producers;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in re-fixation of the tariff values;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the tariff values for aluminium extrusions were fixed in 1967 after detailed examination for about two years in consultation with all the concerned Ministries and Departments of the Government of India;

(d) if so, whether the concurrence of all the concerned Ministries and Departments was taken before withdrawal of the tariff values; and

(e) if not, the circumstances under which his Ministry acted unilaterally taking upon itself the functions and responsibilities of the other Ministries in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) Representations on the lines referred to have been received from one secondary manufacturer, and one trade association. The representation has been referred to the Working Group appointed by the Department of Mines and Metals which is presently examining the pricing policy of aluminium and its products. The question whether tariff values need be fixed in respect of any of the aluminium products will be decided after the report of the aforesaid Working Group is received and examined.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

MONEY BORROWED BY M/S. WALKER BROS. FROM LONDON BRANCH OF BANK OF INDIA

110. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY :

SHRI NIREN GHOSH :

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Walker Brothers borrowed a huge amount from the London branch of the Bank of India;

(b) if so, the total amount borrowed by the company;

(c) whether the bank ascertained the value of the assets of M/s. Walker Brother before giving the loan;

(d) whether it is also a fact that this company has been liquidated recently; and

(e) whether Government have made any enquiry into the matter; if so, the details thereof ?