

Location of Headquarters of Spices Board

1265. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken regarding location of the headquarters of the proposed Spices Board; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). It is proposed to have the headquarters of the Spices Board at Cochin.

Effect of MODVAT on Prices

1266. SHRI H.M. PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's expectations of reduction of consumer prices of products covered by the new scheme of MODVAT, have been belied; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to modify the scheme or withdraw it completely ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Modvat Scheme has been in operation since 1.3.86. While MODVAT is expected to reduce the cost of final products covered under the Scheme through the instant availability of credit of duties paid on the inputs and consequential reduction of interest costs, the consumer prices of such products depend on several other factors such as, changes in the rates of duty made to keep the Modvat Scheme broadly revenue-neutral and market forces governing the demand-and-supply position. There is, presently, no proposal for modification or withdrawal of the Scheme.

Promotional Measures for Export of Products of Marine Industry

1267. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the declining trend in the export of marine products which had accounted for over four per cent in 1982-83; and

(b) the steps being taken for adoption of better fish farming practices and improved infrastructure in order to achieve higher exports of marine products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Export of Marine products during 1985-86 was 83651 tonnes, valued at Rs. 398.00 crores, as compared to 1984-85, when it was 86187 tonnes, valued at Rs. 384.29 crores. The marginal decline in the quantity exported in 1985-86 was mainly due to poor landing of shrimps and Commercial Species of fishes like anchoviella which are exported in dried form. (Source : Marine Products Export Development Authority, Cochin).

(b) Steps taken in this regard include setting up by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) of Prawn Hatcheries, one each in the States of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh with the assistance of foreign technology. promotional assistance by the MPEDA to develop new prawn farms, set up prawn seed banks and develop scientific farming practices.

Issue of Import-Export Pass Books

1268 SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of manufacturer-exporters who have so far availed of the Import-Export Pass Book Scheme since January, 1986; and

(b) the value and the nature of inputs imported by them for export production and the value of exports done by them under this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Import-Export Pass book is a licence under Import Control Order, 1955. The details of the same are published in Weekly Bulletin of Import

Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences issued by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi, copies of which are sent to the Parliament Library.

(b) The licences under this scheme have been issued only after April, 1986 and therefore information regarding imports and exports under this scheme is not available.

Arrests under COFEPOSA in Kerala

1270. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested under Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act in 1985 and 1986 in Kerala; and

(b) the number of persons still under custody ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The number of persons detained in Kerala under Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, during the years 1985 and 1986 (upto 30.6.1986) is given below :

Year	No. of persons detained under COFEPOSA
1985	42
1986 (upto 30.6.86)	10

(b) The number of persons still under detention is 26.

Reservation Policy in Banks

1271. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether reservation policy is adhered to in the nationalised banks;

(b) if so, whether there are any unfilled reserved vacancies in these banks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof bank-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Available information, as on 1.1 1986, is given in the statement below.

Statement

Data Provisional

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
		Officers	Clerks	Sub-staff	Officers	Clerks	Sub-staff
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Central Bank of India	8	13	—	15	218	149
2.	Bank of India	24	368	78	24	518	186
3.	Punjab National Bank	24	293	79	45	367	122
4.	Bank of Baroda	163	122	33	153	283	84
5.	UCO Bank	36	222	1	28	247	92