

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that information regarding amount of loan sanctioned by banks to big industrial houses in Tamil Nadu is not generated through their Reporting System as no statistics is compiled on

state level basis.

However, the amount of credit limit and the outstanding credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks for industries in the state of Tamil Nadu as at the end of June, 1987, June 1988 and June 1989 (latest available) was as under :—

(Rs. crores)

Year	Credit Limits	Amount outstanding
June 1987	3094.65	2520.81
June 1988	4463.52	3485.90
June 1989	5503.08	4439.32

Trade Potential in Gulf

4137. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to exploit the vast trade potential in the Gulf region;

(b) whether any high level delegations have been or are being sent to Gulf region to explore and exploit the potential; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED):

(a) to (c) Government have taken a number of steps to exploit the available opportunities in the post-war Gulf reconstruction. These steps include :—

- (i) A Special Group has been set up to evolve a strategy for promoting project exports in the Gulf in the post-war situation.

- (ii) A High Powered Committee with Inter-Ministerial representation has been set up to expedite Government clearance for project exports through high level Inter-Ministerial discussions.

- (iii) Former Commerce Minister visited Kuwait to get first hand knowledge of the war damage in Kuwait and for talks with the concerned Kuwaiti authorities.

- (iv) Overseas Construction Council of India delegation visited U. K. and U. S. A. to explore the possibilities of securing sub-contracts on the contracts awarded to parties in these countries.

- (v) A Composite delegation of project exporters visited Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

- (vi) A delegation led by Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development authority visited Gulf region recently.

- (vii) A delegation from the Engineering Export Promotion Council is also likely to visit Gulf region during this month.

The areas identified for participation in the reconstruction by Indian companies include oil wells and refineries, civil construction, power lines and allied areas and export of commodity items.

Seizure of Contraband Items

4138. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :
SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of narcotic drugs, gold, silver and other contraband items seized by various agencies during the last three financial years and between April to June, 1991, year-wise and item-wise;

(b) the number of persons arrested/prosecuted during April to June, 1991;

(c) whether the Union Government process to make more strict provisions of punishment for drug traffickers and smugglers in the existing law; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) :

(a) The quantity and value of gold and silver and value of other contraband goods seized by Customs authorities throughout the country during the

financial years 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto June, 1991), are given in the attached statement-I. The quantity of various narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances seized by drug law enforcement agencies in the country during the same period are given in the attached statement-II.

(b) The number of persons arrested/prosecuted by the Customs authorities and by the various drug law enforcement agencies in the country during the period from April to June, 1991 are given separately in the table below :

	Number arrested	Number prosecuted
Customs authorities	702	272
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies	1994	1765

(c) and (d) The existing Law of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 as amended in May, 1989 which even provides for capital punishment for second offences in certain cases and forfeiture of assets acquired from Drug profits are considered strict enough for the present.

Similarly, the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 which apart from confiscation of contraband goods and penalty in departmental adjudication provides for imprisonment upto a maximum period of 7 years are also considered to be adequate for the present.

Persons found involved in Drug Trafficking Smuggling and/or Foreign Exchange manipulation can also be