

[*Translation*]

### Savings Schemes

4477. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to mobilise resources by encouraging savings within the country instead of taking loans from foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes prepared by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). For promoting savings it is imperative to improve the parameters which have a bearing on savings behaviour. These include rate of growth in the economy, level of fiscal deficit, tax policies, inflation, efficiency of the banking system and the capital markets and confidence in the economy. The various economic reform measures undertaken so far are expected to have a favourable impact on the aggregate savings.

[*English*]

### Leasing of Storage Unit to a Private Organisation by MPEDA

4478. SHRI SOBHANADREE-SWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has taken serious exception in awarding the lease of 500 tonnes storage unit to a private

organisation by Marine Products Export Development Authority;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHARJEE): (a) and (c). The CAG has pointed out the loss in running the 500 tonnes cold storage by MPEDA. The 500 tonnes storage unit was set up at a cost of Rs. 1.02 crores in 1983 for operating it on a no profit-on-loss basis. During the period 1983-84, the unit sustained a loss of Rs. 8 lakhs in its operation when it was run departmentally. From November, 1984 to January, 1989 the unit was shut down for repairs. MPEDA, finding sale or lease to highest bidder as impractical, leased it out to Sea Food Exporters Association of India on a monthly rent of Rs. 21,500 from February, 1989. Comptroller and Auditor General of India has pointed out that this leasing arrangement caused a loss of Rs. 37.93 lakhs between the period February 1989 to April 1992, on account of salary of MPEDA staff and repairs. This observation is based upon a formula calculating interest at the rate of 10% on investment and the equated annual depreciation on plant and machinery. Sea-food Exporters Association of India is a registered association of Indian sea-food exporters. Since the MPEDA was incurring heavy losses in running the unit departmentally and since the purpose of setting up the same was to provide the cold storage facilities to sea food exporters at reasonable cost, MPEDA was decided to lease it out to SEAI in the best interest of sea-food exports. The terms of agreement of lease worked out at that time was the most suitable that could be agreed to. The licence fee has since been enhanced to

Rs. 43,000/- per month effect from 15-9-1993. According to the current arrangement, management and maintenance of the storage will be the responsibility of SEAL.

#### **Setting UP of Exporters Grievances Redressal Cell**

4479. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state.

(a) whether any decision has been taken to constitute an Exporters Grievances Redressal Cell in his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Textiles has constituted an Exporters' Grievances Redressal Cell to look into and follow up all complaints/Grievances/Problems/Suggestions relating to exports of Textiles. An officer of the rank of Deputy Secretary in the Ministry is kept incharge of the Cell.

[*Translation*]

#### **Export of Leather Goods**

4480. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for the export of leather products during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total quantity of leather product exported and the foreign

exchange earned therefrom during the above period, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The target for export of leather and leather products for the year 1993-94 has been fixed at Rs. 4768 Crores.

*Item-wise break-up of the target is as follows:*

<i>(Value in Rs. Crores)</i>	
1. Finished Leather	928.00
2. Leather Footwear	736.00
3. Footwear Components	752.00
4. Leather Garments	1328.00
5. Leather Goods	1024.00
	4768.00

(c) A *Statement* is enclosed.

#### **STATEMENT**

*Quantitative figures of exports are not maintained. However country-wise provisional export figures of leather and leather products for the year 1993-94 are as follows:-*

<i>(Value in Rs. Crores)</i>	
Country	1993-94
1. Germany	998.34
2. Italy	375.30
3. U.K.	518.23
4. Belgium	29.06