

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (g). A Satellite Air Freight City project aimed at providing infrastructural facilities to exporters near Indra Gandhi International Airport, Delhi is under consideration. However, a final decision on the project has not yet been taken.

[Translation]

Regional Office of R.B.I. at Bhopal

7463. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new building of the Reserve Bank of India has since been constructed at Bhopal; and

(b) if so, when, and the details of the departments/officers which have started functioning therein and the offices yet to be opened there together with the time likely to be taken in that process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the construction of its building at Bhopal was completed in May, 1991. The Department of Banking Operations and Development, Department of Supervision, Urban Banks Department, Rural Planning and Credit Department, Exchange Control Department of Economic Analysis and Policy have been shifted to the new building. RBI has further reported that it proposes to transfer the work of issue and Banking Departments to the Bhopal Office. RBI has stated that it would be difficult to indicate the precise time limit in this regard.

[English]

Accounting Standards

7464. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any nodal statutory authority to formulate uniform accounting standards in the preparation of financial statements; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Export and Import of Agro Products and Beverages

7465. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total quantity of agricultural products, food and beverages imported and exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the 1994-95 in comparison to the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : The total value of imports and exports of agricultural products during 1993-94 and 1994-95 (April '94 to Feb '95) are as under:

	(Value in Rs. Crores)	
	Exports*	Imports**
1993-94	9727.40	1743.56
1994-95 (April'94 to Feb'95)	8220.75	4786.18

* Agricultural products including tea, coffee and cotton (raw and waste)

** Agricultural products including tea, coffee and cotton (raw and waste) but excluding wood and wood products, and vegetable and Animal Fats

Transfer Policy for Handicapped Employees

7466 SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the physically handicapped persons employed in public sector undertakings, including banks are normally exempted from routine periodical transfers;

(b) if so, whether this directive is uniformly followed by all the public sector banks, particularly in the State Bank of India;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the efforts being made to save the physically handicapped employees from the difficulty of periodical transfers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY). (a) to (d). In terms of the instructions issued by the Department of Personnel and Training and circulated to the public sector undertakings and the public sector banks, award staff employees who are physically handicapped are given postings as far as possible and subject to administrative constraints near their native places. In the same spirit, the request received from such employees for transfers to or near their native place(s) are given due consideration. The public sector banks have also been advised to normally exempt physically handicapped persons from the routine periodical transfers, but if they have to be transferred