

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sugar	374	16.04	379	17.16	383	24.95
Chemicals	10027	318.56	10906	351.76	11108	364.67

[Translation]

Bilateral Agreement With South Africa

732. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed with South Africa for bilateral trade, capital investment and for development of Joint Enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in the implementation of this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Trade Agreement between India and South Africa was signed on 22nd August, 1994 at Johannesburg. The Agreement provides for grant of Most Favoured Nation status by each country of the other in all matters of import and export licences, customs duties and all other charges & taxes applicable to importation, exportation and transit of goods as well as grant of all advantages, favours, privileges/ immunities.

(c) Against the trade turnover between India and South Africa for the year 1993-94 of Rs. 181 crores, the trade turnover between the two countries during 1994-95 reached the level Rs. 995 crores thereby showing a quantum jump as a sequel to the signing of the Trade Agreement between the two countries.

Business Generation by LIC in Gujarat

733. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted to assess the business generated by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Gujarat during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has informed that on such study has been conducted. However, data for New Business in terms of policies, sum assured and first premium income during the last 2

financial years is available and is given below :

Year	Policies	Sum Assured (Rs. Cr.)	First Premium Income (Rs. Cr.)
1993-94	781985	3175.30	103.82
1994-95	727492	4326.92	99.37

[English]

Employment in Tourism Sector

734. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to generate additional employment in the tourism sector; and

(b) if so, the steps taken and the progress made in this regard during the Eight Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Creation of additional employment opportunities is one of the primary objectives of developing tourism in the country. The Government has therefore, initiated several measures for the improvement of infrastructural facilities for tourism. It includes declaration of tourism as a priority sector for foreign investment, provision of incentives and facilities for attracting private investment in tourism projects, central financial assistance to State Governments for specific projects.

Central Subsidy for Hotel Business in Rural Areas

735. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government provide subsidy for setting up of hotels in rural areas;

(b) if so, the percentage of the subsidy being provided for this purpose; and

(c) the amount of subsidy provided for this purpose by the Union Government in rural areas of Maharashtra during the year 1994-95?