

Home Based Workers

985. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to enact a legislation for the home based workers to formulate modalities to control the inhuman exploitation and to treat them as workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to call a conference of the Trade Unions and Women Organisations to discuss the problems of the home based workers whose number is increasing day by day; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Foreign Currency Racket

986. SHRI M.V.V. S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Enforcement officials of Delhi have unearthed a major foreign currency racket in the Capital recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether earlier also a large number of foreign currency and gold were seized at the International Airport at Delhi; and

(d) if so, the total gold and currency seized during the current year till now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). The Enforcement Directorate have recently detected two major cases of foreign exchange racketeering in the city in which foreign exchange amounting to Deutsche Mark 50, 340, Swiss Franc 700 and US \$ 9450 were seized. Indian currency

worth approximately Rs. 14 lakhs and four gold biscuits were also seized.

(c) and (d). On 24.4.1995, the Enforcement Directorate seized foreign exchange worth approximately Rs. 3 lakhs from a person at Delhi Airport.

During the current year, the Directorate has seized foreign currency worth Rs. 1.25 crores, Indian currency amounting to Rs. 3.08 crores and 16 gold biscuits.

White Paper on Foreign Debt

987. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the foreign borrowings during the last three years as a result of direct investments by the foreign companies ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have undertaken the preparation of a white paper on foreign debts; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be brought out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). There has been a decline in net foreign borrowings (net of repayments) during the last three years as per the balance of payments estimates. The direct foreign investments by the foreign companies have, to some extent, made up for the decline in net foreign borrowings. Direct foreign investments, including those by Non-Resident Indians, amounted to US \$ 341 Million in 1992-93, US \$ 620 million in 1993-94 and US \$ 1314 Million in 1994-95.

(c) and (d). The white paper on India's External Debt is being finalised and it is likely to be made available shortly.

Export of Rice by State Trading Corporation

988. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Trading Corporation had concluded a deal for export of 50,000 tonnes of rice to Bangladesh during the last few months ;

(b) whether STC had availed of the services of a private organisation for mediation in concluding this deal ;

(c) whether the said agency was given commission for services rendered by it;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the profit earned by the STC; and

(e) the reason for availing the services of private organisations in exporting rice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes , Sir.

(c) to (e). Although agency commission is payable, so far no commission has actually been paid and the contract is still under implementation. The agency Commission payable is well within the ceiling prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India. It is not possible to estimate the profit to be earned by STC at this stage since the contracted quantity is being shipped. The agents, M/s. KP&FC, Dhaka are appointed on the basis of market information regarding their utility.

Growth Centres

989. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified some export growth centres in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise ;

(c) the details of the facilities provided in these centres ;

(d) the details of total expenditure likely to be incurred on each centre ;

(e) whether the Government had asked them to submit specific export plans ;

(f) if so, the details of such proposals received by the Government, centre-wise; and

(g) the extent up to which the facilities have been provided in these export centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (g). the Government has identified 23 centres which lend themselves to classification as Export Intensive Areas with reference to specific commodities. A list of these Centres is attached as Statement. The objective is to strengthen the infrastructure at these Centres and facilitate export production. The State Governments have been advised to prepare feasibility studies accordingly. The projects are to be implemented by State Governments, the expenditure at each Centre would depend on the scope of the works proposed . In respect of Tirupur in Tamil Nadu, an expenditure of Rs. 589 crores has been proposed. On regard to Moradabad , the feasibility report envisages an investment of Rs. 462.21 crore. In respect of other centres, feasibility studies are yet to be conducted by the concerned State Government.

STATEMENT

Export Intensive Area Scheme		Identified Centres
Name of the Centre	State	Commodity
1	2	3
Tiruppur	Tamil Nadu	Knitwear & Hosiery
Morabad	Uttar Pradesh	Brassware Handicrafts
Ludhiana	Punjab	Heavy Machinery Hosiery
Surat	Gujarat	Diamonds Jewellery
Panipat	Haryana	Handlooms
Alleppey	Kerala	Coir
Jalandhar	punjab	Sports Goods
Ranipet/abmar	Tamil Nadu	Leather