

(1)	(2)	(3)
10.	Banque Indo-Suez	38.98
11.	Banque Nationale De Paris	106.16
12.	British Bank of the Middle East	115.79
13.	Citi Bank N.A.	487.10
14.	Deutsche Bank (Asia)	33.90
15.	Grindlays Bank p.l.c.	957.68
16.	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	494.53
17.	Mitsui Bank	15.10
18.	Oman International Bank SAO	13.32
19.	Societe Generale	36.90
20.	Sonali Bank	3.04
21.	Standard Chartered Bank	378.30
	Total:	3581.57

Sale of Cigarettes

717. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some popular brands of Cigarettes were sold in Black Market rates in several parts of the country recently;

(b) whether Government have enquired into the matter;

(c) if so, the findings of the enquiry; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (d). Duty of excise is based on the length of Cigarettes with effect from 1.3.1987 and

thus prices printed on cigarette packets are not relevant for levy of central excise duty. The question of conducting enquiries in this regard by Central excise Department, therefore, does not arise. However, prior to 1.3.1987 when duty of excise was leviable on the basis of printed retail prices on cigarette packets, investigations/searches were conducted in respect of major cigarette companies. Show cause notices demanding duty of over Rs. 890 crores have been issued to the concerned cigarette companies which were selling cigarettes at prices higher than those printed on the cigarette packets. Most of the show cause notices are under the process of adjudication. The question of enforcing recovery of duty demanded would arise only after adjudication of the cases.

The offence of charging a price higher than that printed on the cigarette packets is punishable under the provisions of Stan-

dards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976 enforceable by the State Government Authorities who have already been requested to take suitable action in the matter.

Export Achievements

718. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a record in export has been achieved during this year;

(b) whether Government are implementing measures to facilitate increased capacity for export production and upgradation of technology; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) According to the latest provisional trade statistics India's exports during the first nine months of the current financial year, i.e. April-December, 1987 amounted to Rs. 11197.41 crores, which are 24.7 percent higher as compared to Rs. 8978.43 crores during April-December, 1986.

(b) and (c). A series of initiatives have been taken to facilitate increased capacity for export production and upgradation of technology. These include (i) raising the limit of assets for definition of large house under the MRTP Act; (ii) delicensing of various industries and broadbanding; (iii) export production will not be taken into account for purposes of establishing dominance under the MRTP Act, and it will be kept out side the licensed capacity; (iv) exempting export production from industrial licensing, (v) allowing import of machinery and equipment not domestically available on OGL and at concessional rates of duty for selected export thrust sectors.

Nationalisation of closed textile mills in Gujarat

719. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to evolve a package scheme for nationalisation of the closed textile mills in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad had submitted a resolution passed by the textile workers of Ahmedabad seeking the nationalisation of the entire textile industry

(c) The June, 1985 Textile policy statement specifically states that takeover or nationalisation of sick textile units does not provide a solution to the problems of sickness and Government would not, as a rule, intervene in such cases.

[Translation]

Financial assistance to Small Scale Industries

720. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding the implementation of new schemes through banks and other financial institutions to provide financial assistance to the small scale industries especially those facing crisis and to solve their problems connected therewith; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Certain new schemes/measures have been initiated by Government/IDBI recently which include those relating to women entrepreneurs, ex-servicemen; quality control and testing centres; national equity fund; marketing; raw material and other extension services through SSIDCs. The schemes are monitored by the IDBI.