

(c) The recommendations are useful for development of tourism infrastructure and thereby increasing the flow of tourists both domestic and international.

Non-Resident Indians

*992. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD
VARMA:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise number of Non-Resident Indians around the world and the amount so far invested by them in India including in Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) deposits in banks and in other areas; and

(b) the policy of Government to tap Non-Resident Indian resources in the current five year plan?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No specific census of NRIs is available. The total investments made by Non-Resident Indians as on 31.1.1990 inclusive of bank deposits amounted to nearly Rs. 19,000 crores, cumulatively.

(b) It is the policy of Government to provide all necessary facilities and incentives to the Non-Resident Indians to invest in India.

Proposal of Indo-International Bank Limited

*993. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHAMBHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the First Indo-International

Bank Limited (FIIB) will bring in equity and NRI deposits;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the amount which will be non-repairable:

(c) Whether Government have considered the proposal made by the President of Indo-NRI Chamber of Commerce and Culture in this regard:

(d) If so, the details of the proposal put forward by the FIIB;

(e) Whether Government have considered the proposal; and

(f) If so, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (f). The First Indo-International Bank Ltd., Nassau, Bahamas, a bank set up by Indian non-residents in November, 1988 had approached Reserve Bank of India in July, 1989 to allow them to open a branch in Bombay to mobilise NRI investments/deposits. The Bank's application has not been considered favourably by Reserve Bank of India. The Bank has since requested Reserve Bank of India to reconsider its decision.

Setting up of Tourist Complex in Kanyakumari

*994. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Union Government for setting up of a tourist complex in Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu with the collaboration of Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

News item "Smuggling on the Rise"

*995. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to various anti-smuggling organisations operating in the country, it has been revealed that smuggling activities have increased considerably since the past one decade as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 28 and 29 April, 1990;

(b) if so, whether the report prepared by the Intelligence Wing in September, 1989 in collaboration with anti-smuggling organisation has since been examined; and

(c) if so, the details of the report and the further steps contemplated by Government to make anti-smuggling organisations more effective?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) It is not possible to estimate whether smuggling activities have increased during the past decade and if so to what extent. The value of seizures effected by the Customs authorities over the past few years as given in the table show an increasing trend. This need not necessarily indicate a spurt in smuggling but could be due to intensified anti-smuggling efforts.

TABLE

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value of seizures (Rs. in crores)</i>
1985	195.63

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value of seizures (Rs. in crores)</i>
1986	217.52
1987	251.47
1988	443.14
1989	554.59
1990 (upto April)	223.38 (Provisional)

(b) No such report has been prepared by any of the intelligence agencies under this Ministry.

(c) Does not arise.

Writing off Loans of Farmers, Artisans and Weavers

*996. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated the detailed scheme of debt relief to farmers, artisans and weavers who had taken loans upto Rs.10,000 from various banks, in consultation with the RBI and the NABARD;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which the scheme is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The Government of India had announced its decision for providing debt relief for farmers, artisans and weavers who had taken loans upto Rs. 10,000/- from public sector banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks. The Government has formulated the Agri-