

[Translation]

Smuggling of Goods

1213. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the smuggled goods seized during the last year; and

(b) the value of the goods seized in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). During 1995-96, anti Smuggling agencies seized under the Customs Act 1962 goods valued at Rs. 634.82 crores. Seized goods include Gold, Silver, Indian and Foreign Currency, Electronic items, diamond and Narcotics. Except in the case of gold and silver it is not possible to state the international value of the seized good due to wide variation in the international prices depending on the quality, make and country of origin of the seized goods.

However, International value of seized Gold and Silver can be estimated on the basis of average price of Gold and Silver in the London bullion market. Based on these estimates, Indian International values of Gold and Silver seized during 1995-96 under the Customs Act, 1962 are given below :

	Indian Value (Rupees in Crores)	International Value (Rupees in Crores)
Gold	50.87	44.73
Silver	0.54	0.45

[English]

Disbursements by SIDBI

1214. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India recorded a substantial increase in sanction, disbursements and refinance during the year 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether States in Eastern and Northern-Eastern Region have been accorded low priority; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Small industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that its total sanctions during 1995-96 amounted to Rs. 6056 crore and aggregate disbursements during this period stood at Rs. 4796 crore, registering growth of 29% and 42% respectively over the sanctions and disbursements during 1994-95. Of the total assistance, sanctions of refinance at Rs.

2609 crore and disbursements at Rs. 2124 crore in 1995-96 were higher by 56% and 72% respectively as compared with the figures for the previous year.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. As per information provided by SIDBI, the particulars of sanctions and disbursements in the Eastern and North-Eastern Region during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as follows :

	(Rs. in Crore)		
	FY 1994-95	FY 1995-96	Growth
Sanctions	227.44	340.55	50%
Disbursements	154.99	293.13	89%

Promotion of Small Scale Industries

1215. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted any Expert Committee on Small Scale Enterprises;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the main recommendations thereof; and

(d) the other steps the Government propose to take to promote small scale industries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have constituted an Expert Committee on Small Enterprises headed by Shri. Abid Hussain (former Member, Planning Commission) on 29th December, 1995.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of the reply to part (b) above, does not arise.

(d) The Government has taken various steps for promotion and development of small scale industries (SSI) in the country. These include provisions of excise concession, reservation of products for exclusive manufacture in the SSI sector, inclusion of SSIs in the priority sector for lending by commercial banks etc. A number of development schemes are also being implemented by the Government for providing infrastructure support and extension services for the SSIs through institutions like Tool Rooms and Small Industries Service Institutes.

Export of Poor Quality of Tea and Tobacco

1216. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding export of poor quality of tea and tobacco to Russia;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected during 1995 and 1996 so far; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Income Tax Dues

1217. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of companies, individuals, Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs) and others against whom income-tax to the tune of Rs. 10 crores and above is outstanding as on July 1, 1996;

(b) the names of companies against whom the Central Excise Duty amounting to Rs. 5 crores and above is outstanding as on date; and

(c) the steps taken or propose to be taken to recover the above amount?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Central Chit Fund Act

1218. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Chit Fund Federation has urged the Government to notify the Central Chit Fund Act, 1982; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). No such representation appears to have been received by the Government in the recent past. However, Chit Funds Act, 1982 has already been brought into force in 21 States/Union Territories on different dates.

Khadi Textiles

1219. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to popularise Khadi and Polyvastra.

(b) whether the interest of the buyers and consumers are also kept in view while taking steps to promote and popularise Khadi and Polyvastra; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) KVIC has taken number of steps for popularising Khadi and Polyvastra, some of which, are given below :

(1) Quality Assurance : In order to ensure the strength and evenness parameters as well as fastness properties towards washing, light and perspiration, necessary test are conducted. KVIC has brought out cotton, silk khadi shade cards and provided to the producing institutions.

(2) Product/Design Development : KVIC has developed light and medium variety Deni, specially to cater to the need of young generation. A Design Development Centre has also been established.

(3) A Project assigned to this National Institute of Design has been successfully completed and the designs have been brought into commercial production.

(4) KVIC and some KVIBs have conducted Fashion Shows to popularise Khadi.

Transfer Policy of High Court Judges

1220. SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for reviewing the transfer policy in respect of High Court judges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The Government have accepted as a policy the recommendations of the Law Commission in its 80th Report that there should be a convention according to which 1/3rd of Judges in each High Court should be from any other State. The Government have decided that this may be implemented either by making initial appointments from outside or by effecting transfers Pursuant to this policy, transfer/appointment of Judges and Chief Justices of the High Courts are being made on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of India.

The Supreme Court of India in its judgement dt. 6.10.1993 had held that the initiation of the proposal for the transfer of a Judge/Chief Justice should be by the Chief Justice of India alone. As and when a representation is received from a judge regarding his transfer from one High Court to another it is sent to the Chief Justice of India for appropriate action.