

import cloves. To promote production of cloves, Government arranges supply of planting material, provides irrigation facilities, etc.

Export of Coffee

5312. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coffee exported particularly from Karnataka during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a great demand for Indian Coffee in the international market; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to boost export of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The quantity of coffee exported through Mangalore Port of Karnataka and the total exports of coffee from India during the last three fiscal years are as under:

Year	Total Export (Tonnes)	From Mangalore Port (Tonnes)
1988-89	98266	45680
1989-90	134052	44728
1990-91	100110	42691

(b) The steady increase in the exports of coffee from 33189 tonnes in 1970-71 to 100110 tonnes in 1990-91 reveals the increase in demand for Indian Coffee in the International market.

(c) Besides readjustment of exchange rate, the Government has recently introduced the EXIM Scrip in place of REP licence, which is expected to help in boosting export of coffee.

Talks with Traders on Price Rise

5313. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had invited traders to discuss the issue of price rise;

(b) if so, when and the outcome of the discussion held;

(c) whether any directives have been issued to the traders in this regard; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it will help in checking the rise in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). The Finance Minister, in paragraph 129 of the Budget Speech has *inter alia* announced that he would invite the representatives of industry and trade to work out the modalities for realisation of the objectives in regard to prices of essential commodities. Follow-up action on the announcement made in the Budget, 1991-92, is under way.

Short-Term Credit From Commercial Banks

5314. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total outstanding short-term credit taken from commercial banks against banker's acceptance facilities in foreign exchange;

(b) whether the Government have used recent loans taken from the international Monetary Fund to liquidate a part of this short-term credit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The total outstanding short-term credit taken from commercial banks against banker's acceptance facilities utilised for commodity imports by the canalising agencies on the basis of government authorisation as at the end of July 1991 was US \$ 569.106 million.

(b) The loans taken from the International Monetary Fund are inflows in the Capital account of balance of payments and repayments of outstanding amounts of short-term credit is a continuous process and thus not linked to specific items of inflow on Capital account.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Silver

5315. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of silver seized while being smuggled out of the country during the last one year; and

(b) the number of persons arrested and the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Instances of smuggling of silver out of the country have not been reported during the last one year.

(b) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Export of Leather Goods

5316. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope of exporting leather and leather goods;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of leather goods, and

(c) the prospects of exporting leather goods during the current financial year?

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

(b) Market promotion measures abroad and product development efforts in India for Indian leather goods to be competitive in world markets in terms of price and quality have helped in increasing exports and these measures are proposed to be continued and intensified, wherever required.

(c) It is expected that the exports of leather goods will continue to increase during the current financial year.

Violation of Pollution Control Rules In Delhi

5317. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state: