

administrative control, to grant ante-dated seniority and pay fixation benefits to other eligible ex-ECOs/SSCOs re-employed with them in terms of the provisions contained in para 6 of the Department of Personnel & Training notification No. /220/69-Estt (c), dated 26th August, 1971. All the Banks have extended such benefits to the eligible Ex-ECOs/SSCOs. However, the question whether such benefits to the eligible Ex-ECOs/SSCOs re-employed in the State Bank of India, should be in terms of para 6 (a) or 6 (b) of the said notification, is under examination by the Department of Personnel & Training.

[*Translation*]

Import of codeine Phosphate

3639. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Codeine Phosphate imported annually and the foreign exchange involved;

(b) the annual production of Codeine Phosphate in the country;

(c) whether the requirement of Codeine Phosphate can be met by indigenous production; and

(d) if so, the reasons for importing Codeine Phosphate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). The quantities of Codeine Phosphate imported and manufactured in the country during the last 5 years are as follows:

Year	Quantity of Codeine Phosphate	
	(Imported in Kgs.)	Manufactured in the country (in Kgs.)
1986-87	1000	4434
1987-88	4000	3500
1988-89	4000	5896
1989-90	9000	6716
1990-91	9000	7738

Codeine Phosphate is imported under barter deal in exchange for opium; there is no direct out-flow of foreign exchange.

Codeine Phosphate is manufactured from opium in the country at the two government Opium and Alkaloid Plants at Neemuch and Ghazipur. Capacities of the plants and their recovery efficiency of this product are the limiting factors in meeting the entire indigenous requirement of Codeine Phosphate.

[*English*]

Laser Guided Technology In DRDO

3640. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the defence Research and development Organisation has achieved a breakthrough in LASER guided Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of other countries possessing this technology?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD POWER): (a) and (b). Defence

Research and Development Organisation has developed critical sub-system for laser guidance namely laser designator and laser seeker/guidance kits.

(c) As per the published literature, USA, USSR, UK, France, Sweden and Israel possess this technology.

Declaration of Karwar port as customs port

3641. SHRIMATIBASAVARAJESWARI
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to the Union Government for declaration of Karwar Port as customs Port; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Karwar Port in the State of Karnataka was declared as a Customs Port on 19.5.1973. Initially only selected commodities were allowed for import and export through this Port. A request was received from the Karnataka Government in January, 1990 for allowing imports and exports of additional commodities through Karwar port. This was examined and a decision was taken to allow those commodities, as they were needed by the trade and industry.

Cases Pending in Economic Defences Court at Ernakulam

3642. SHRIRAMESHCHEENITHALA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases involving economic offences pending in the economic

offences court at Ernakulam with year-wise pendency;

(b) the action taken for speedy disposal of these cases; and

(c) whether there is any proposed to set up one more economic offences court at Thiruvananthapuram to expedite the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The number of cases involving Income tax, central excise, gold control and customs acts offences pending in the Economic offences Court at Ernakulam from 1986 to Nov. 91 are given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Cases pending</i>
1986	39
1987	59
1988	100
1989	117
1990	192
1991	68
Upto Nov.	

(b) Constant touch is maintained with the Government Counsels for speedy disposal of the cases.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Financial Assistance for Protecting Traditional Handicrafts in Uttar Pradesh

3643. SHRISURENDRA PAL PATHAK:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state: