

a uniform policy towards developing as well as developed countries; and

(d) whether India's policy of unilateral liberalisation of imports has contributed to the country's balance of trade deficit and to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (c) As far as India is concerned interaction with the World Bank is within the framework of the Bank's Articles of Agreement and in conformity with India's national economic policies and priorities. We are not aware of the policy prescriptions that the Bank may be making in relation to other countries.

(d) The trade deficits during last four financial years and upto September, 1985 have been as follows :

Year	In Rs. Crores
1981-82	5802
1982-83	5503
1983-84*	5891
1984-85*	5435
April-Sept. '85*	4124

*Figures are provisional.

The import policy is framed keeping in view the overall foreign exchange position and the needs of the economy. The trade deficit is attributable mainly to import of bulk items such as petroleum and petroleum products, fertilizer, edible oils, iron & steel and sugar.

[Translation]

Exemption of Income-tax to Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi for conducting research work

3872. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Orient Paper Mill, Brijraj Nagar (Orissa); Orient Paper Mill, Ambalai (Madhya Pradesh); Hindustan Motors, Uttar Para (West Bengal) have been enjoying exemption of Income-tax on the amount being spent on research work;

(b) whether exemption in income-tax has been given to the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi in the name of conducting research work;

(c) whether the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra have neither mentioned about the amount of expenditure in this regard in their annual budget nor they have got conducted any such research work;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a high level enquiry into the matter of exemption in the income-tax, giving full details of concerned research work; and

(e) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

[English]

New projects for development of tourism in 19 4-85 and 1985-86

3873. SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the new projects for development of tourism taken up during 1984-85 and proposed to be taken up in 1985-86; and

(b) whether any project from the Government of Bihar has been included in the list ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Development of tourism facilities is a continuous

process involving the combined efforts of the Centre, the State & the private sector. Projects are taken up by the Department after evaluation, depending upon the potential, availability of funds and inter-se priority. During 1984-85 the Department released funds for 45 Central schemes that included three projects in Bihar. During 1985-86 the Department has so far taken up 65 projects out of which two projects are in Bihar.

Income Tax, & Excise Customs cases pending in courts

3874. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether customs raids and investigations yield large scale prosecution but the income-tax raids on the other hand are rendered infructuous as they are usually litigated and in the absence of concrete evidence that a suspect deliberately tried to cheat Government, courts decide against criminal convictions;

(b) if so, how Government propose to deal with the situation;

(c) how many cases of income-tax, central excise, customs etc. are locked up in the courts, since when and what steps have been taken to expedite their finalisation; and

(d) whether there is any proposal for the creation of special income-tax courts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) The information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Raids at residences of officials of the Office of Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports

3875. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has recently raided at the residential premises of the official of the office of the Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports at Bombay as reported in the news papers of 20th February, 1986;

(b) if so, the details of the officials on whom raids were conducted and full details of incriminating documents and fixed deposits receipts, etc, seized during the raids; and

(c) the action contemplated by Government against the officials of the office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

(d) The investigation of these cases by the CBI is in progress.