(d) The cost of a Black and White OB Van is Rs. 80 lakhs. The first 6 Colour OB Vans cost Rs. 1.60 crores each, and the next 4 Vans will cost Rs. 1.76 crores each.

(e) Orders for Black and White OB Vans have already been cleared. Of the 10 Colour Vans, 4 would have been supplied by March, 1987. Two vans will be supplied in July, 1987 and the remaining 4 will be supplied in 1988-89.

Agreement with Czechoslovakia

5579. SHRI S. M. GURADDI : SHRI G. S. BASABARAJU :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Deputy Commercial Counsellor of Czechoslovakia visited India during December, 1986;

(b) if so, the nature of discussion held with him and whether any agreement has been reached; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) No such visit for discussion with this Ministry took place.

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

Measures to boost export of bulk drugs

5580. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESH-WARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have approved a series of new measures to boost export of bulk drugs and formulation in the chemical sector;

(b) if so, whether Government have also decided to accord speedy export production clearance for drugs;

(c) the other measures being considered in this regard; and

(d) to what extent these steps will help the export of drugs and formulation in the chemical sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Higher level of agency commission and retention of part of foreign exchange earnings for export promotion.

(d) It is expected that these measures would result in substantial growth in the export of drugs and formulations.

Loan to hotel industry in Karnataka

5581. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hotal Industry in Karnataka is not getting loans at concessional rate of interest by. I D. B. 1. and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) Under I D. B I's scheme of direct assistance, concessional rates of interest are applicable to only those projects which are located in backward areas in the country. In Karnataka, the Bank has granted loans to only two hotol projects. Both these projects being located at Bangalore which is a developed area, did not qualify for assistance on concessional terms.

(b) Does not arise.

Loss of foreign exchange from Discontinuing from export

5582. SHRI P M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the consequent effect on the export of frogs and the estimated annual loss of foreign exchange as a result of frog being placed under Wild life profection list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R.