

ism to indicate any details.

28th February, 1990.

**Export of Vegetable and Fruits from Kerala to Gulf Countries**

[*Translation*]

1944. SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of vegetables and fruits from Kerala to the Gulf countries have come to a halt following the enhancement of freight charges by Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard to resume the exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) to (c). According to information received from the Agricultural & Processed Food Exporters' Association Trivandrum, export of vegetables from Kerala came to a halt on 22nd February, 1990 as they were given to understand by Air India that from 23rd February onwards man-datory freight for vegetables would be increased by 50%. However, according to the Association, Air India subsequently clarified that old rates would prevail upto 14th March, and thereafter the revised rates with 30% increase would be applicable. Hence exports were resumed on

**Foreign Banks**

1945. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign banks operating in the country and the places where they have their branches;

(b) the number of officers and staff working therein and the number of Indians among them; and

(c) the total business transacted by these banks and the rate on interest allowed by these banks on deposits and also the rate of interest charged on loans advanced.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) The names of the foreign banks operating in India as on date and the places where their branches are operating are given in the statement below

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per the data published by the Indian Banks' Association, as on 31.12.1987, the total number of staff of foreign banks in India, including expatriates, were as under:—

Officers	—	2955
Clerks	—	6295
Subordinates	—	11744

RBI has further reported that at present 75 expatriates are attached to the foreign banks in India.

(c) According to RBI, the total advances and deposits with the Indian branches of

foreign banks, as on 13.3.89, were Rs. 4378.1 crores and Rs. 6441.5 crores, respectively. The rates of interest allowed on deposits and charged on loans are prescribed by RBI from time to time and are uniformly applicable to all scheduled commercial banks, including foreign banks operating in India.