

As regards loans by the GIC in the housing sector, the assistance sanctioned and disbursed to states in the last three years is as under

		(Rs in Crores)	
Year	Sanctioned	Disbursed	
1989-90	39.16	34.80	
1990-91	45.54	35.70	
1991-92	47.79	Still being disbursed	

[English]

Increase In Exports

4868 SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that with the lifting of all trade controls and the introduction of partial convertibility of the rupee far ahead of schedule it has given a push to exports in the country

(b) if so, the extent to which the exports are likely to be increased

(c) whether the Government also propose to further liberalise the trade policy and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b). There will be a time lag in the new measures such as partial convertibility of rupee, free import of all items except those in the negative list, etc., to have an actual impact on exports. However, according to provisional estimates, India's exports to GCA countries amounted to Rs 30914 crores during April - January

1991-92 as compared to Rs 21427 crores during April - January 1990-91 there by showing an increase of 44.3% in dollar terms, exports to GCA increased by 5.7%. India's exports to RPA countries amounted to Rs 3785 crores during April - January 1991-92 as compared to Rs 4809 crores during April - January 1990-91 there by showing a decline of 21.3% in dollar terms, exports to RPA declined by 42.3%

(c) and (d) The new Import and Export Policy for the period effective from April 1992 is under formulation

Coffee Production

4869 SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the total area under coffee cultivation in the country

(b) the quantity of coffee produced in the country particularly in Karnataka and the amount of foreign exchange earned from its export during 1990-91 and 1991-92 and

(c) the production and export targets of coffee fixed for 1992-93 and the foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) The total area under coffee cultivation in the country is 2,43,117 hectares

(b) The estimated production of coffee in 1990-91 was 1,73,000 MT, out of which 1,27,630 MT is estimated to have been produced in Karnataka. For 1991-92, the production estimate is 2,10,000 MT of which 1,55,850 MT is the estimate for Karnataka. An amount of Rs 278.89 crores and Rs 316.95 crores has been earned from export of coffee from the country during 1990-91

and 1991-92 (upto February 1992) respectively

(c) Production target of coffee during 1992-93 has been tentatively fixed at 1,50,000 tonnes. Export target of coffee during 1992-93 has been tentatively fixed at 1 20 000 tonnes to earn foreign exchange of Rs 380 Crores

Benefits To Textile Workers In Kerala

4870 SHRI P C THOMAS Will the minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the textile workers in Kerala are getting E S I super-annuation and other benefits at par with their counterparts in other states

(b) If not, the reasons therefor and

(c) The steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) (a) to (c) As per the information made available, E S I, super annutation and other benefits are available to all the textile workers including those of Kerala under the E S I Act provided their monthly wages are up to Rs 1600 per month. For the workers above the monthly wages of Rs 1600, the individual managements take care of the medical expenses and insurance expenses from the accidents. Further, such areas are covered by workers Compensation Act 1923

Seafood Industry

4871 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether many structural weaknesses of India's seafood industry came to light at the business session of the 3 day interna-

tional seafood fair which concluded on February 9, 1992 at Cochin,

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard particularly for massive technological upgradation at par with the international standards and product diversification to remain competitive in highly flexible international market ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) and (b) No specific structural weakness was highlighted by any of the participants. However, the need for augmenting production both through deep sea fishing and aquaculture was stressed by most participants

(c) MPEDA has several schemes for increasing production and productivity and for modernisation of seafood industry. There are as many as 52 IQF plants in the country. A large number of exporters have installed state of the art freezing machines. During 1990-91 India exported seafood in value added form of Rs 100 crores, and there was a total export of Rs 893 Crores

[Translation]

Export Tax Evasion

4872 SHRI RAM LAKHAN YADAV Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of cases of duty evasion in exports detected during the last three years and the amount involved therein

(b) the number of customs officials found involved in such cases during the above period and

(c) the action taken against them ?