

cardamom valued at Rs. 6.70 lakhs (provisional) have been effected upto February.

Allocation of Banks to Public Sector Undertakings

2844. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allocate one public sector bank to one public sector undertaking; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) and (b). Under the scheme of departmentalisation of Central Government accounts, each Ministry/Department of Government of India is accredited to a particular public sector bank to attend its receipts and payments work. The public sector undertakings/statutory bodies/corporations etc., have an independent entity and are free to choose any of the public sector banks for their financing requirements etc. It will also be open to the public sector undertakings to deal with more than one public sector bank or consortium of banks depending upon the units' operational convenience and the extent of its financial re-

quirements.

Export of Iron Ore

2845. SHRI K. PRADHANI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which iron ore was exported during Seventh Plan period alongwith the quantum and value thereof, year-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken to increase the export of iron ore?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Iron ore was exported to Japan, South Korea, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, G.D.R. Switzerland, Poland, Middle East, Malaysia, North Korea, Pakistan, Turkey, China, Nepal, Kuwait, U.A.E., Bahrain, Australia, Qatar, U.S.A., Indonesia, Taiwan, Iraq, France, Mexico, West Germany and other West European countries. The quantum and value of iron ore exported during the Seventh Plan period is as under:

(Quantity in Million Tonnes)

(Value in Rupees Crores)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i>
1985-86	30.019	543.65
1986-87	32.525	597.47
1987-88	28.369	515.53
1988-89	33.318	670.61
1989-90 (Provisional) (April-February)	29.541	778.25

(b) Some of the steps taken to increase exports of iron ore are market diversification, improvement in infrastructural facilities at major ports and tying up of export sales through long term agreements with major buyers of iron ore, etc.

FICCI Suggestions on Import-Export Policy

2846. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have received some suggestions from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on the Import and Export policy.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether FICCI has suggested that the new policy should be made valid for a period of 5 years so that it is co terminus with the 8th Five Year Plan, and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU).
(a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). The forthcoming new Import & Export Policy will be laid on the Table of the House on 30th March, 1990. It is therefore premature to disclose details at this stage

Surprise Visits by Officers of Central Excise Department

2847. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of surprise visits made by Deputy Collectors, Assistant Collectors and Superintendents of the Central Excise

department at Delhi to the units during the last three months;

(b) the results of these visits; and

(c) the number of adjudication cases pending with the Collectors and the steps taken to finalise expeditiously the adjudication cases?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Surprise visits made during last three months:

Deputy Collectors	NIL
Assistant Collectors	11
Superintendents	54

(b) 46 cases have been registered as a result of these visits involving evasion of central excise duty of Rs. 72.93 lakhs approximately.

(c) 83 cases are pending adjudication with the Collector of Central Excise, Delhi. One more Collector of Central Excise, Delhi has been posted mainly to attend to adjudication of cases in addition to other specified functions allotted. Pendency of adjudications with Collectors is also monitored at the level of Central Board of Excise and Customs.

Suggestion for Merger of MITCO & MMTC

2848. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered Committee on mica constituted by Government in September 1988, has recommended merger of the Mica Trading Corporation (MITCO) with the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC); and