MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Government has not sponsored any Study Group to visit Germany to find out the possibilities of export.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The details of exports of garments and leather articles to Germany are:-

ltem		Value during Jan sept., '92 in million DM
(i) ·	Readymade garments including madeups of cotton, madeups of silk and rayon, and cotton knitwear.	624.36
(ii)	Leather goods and leather shoes	373.52

(Source: Embassy of India, Bonn)

(d) Readymade garments and leather goods have been included in the 14 thrust areas, identified by the Indian Embassy in Germany for intensified export promotion, which includes visits by Business delegations, participation in trade fairis and buyerseller meets.

Petro Chemicals

3733. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Petro-Chemicals Limited (IPCL) proposes to set up some joint ventures abroad:
- (b) if so, the names of the countries with which IPCL proposes to set up joint ventures;
- (c) the amount sarmarked by IPCL in those joint ventures; and
 - (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b).

Yes, Sir. IPCL proposes to set up joint venture projects in Saudi Arabia and Iran.

(c) and (d). IPCL's equity in the Saudi Arabian joint venture is proposed at Rs. 66 crores (equivalent of US\$ 22 million). The joint venture will be for a 100,000 TPA Acrylonitrile Plant at Yanbu, in association with M/s. Alujain Corporation of Saudi Arabia.

No amount has been earmarked for the proposed joint venture in Iran, as it is only in the stage of preliminary assessment.

Modernisation of Funds For SSI

- 3734. SHRI GURCHARAN SINGH DADAHOOR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is a proposal to set up a modernisation fund for Small Scale Industries; and
- (b) the mode of disbursement of this fund for small scale units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRICULTURE AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government is considering a proposal for setting up of a modernisation fund for SSI sector, the details of which are not yet finalised

Impact of Agreement between U.S. and European Community on Public **Distribution System**

3735, SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Public Distribution of · foodgrains to the poor people in the country is likely to be crippled due to the agreement reached between the U.S. and European Community in regard to the farm productions; and
- (b) if not, steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES. CON-SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRI-

BUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vacant Posts of Chief Justices

3736, PROF, PREM DHUMAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are some High Courts in the country where acting Chief Justices have been appointed against regular posts;
 - (b) if so, details thereof:
- (c) the time by which regular Chief Justices are likely to be appointed; and
- (d) the details of vacancies of Chief Justices and other Judges in various High Courts of the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COM-PANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d). As on 1.12.92, the Office of the Chief Justice of the High Court was vacant in the following High Courts from the dates indicated against each:-

Calcutta	15.06.92
Karnataka	01.07.92
Himachal Pradesh	20.10.92
Sikkim	09.11.92
Madras	15.11.92

The process of consultation with the constitutional authorities for appointment of Permanent Chief Justices in these High Courts is on. It is not possible to indicate the time by which regular Chief Justices are likely to be appointed.

A statement showing the number of vacancies of permanent/additional Judges in the High Courts as on 1.12.92 is attached.