

Ltd.

ous stages of of enquiry.

2. G.M.S. Ceramics Ltd.

Export of Opium

3. Until Communications Ltd.

1736. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the quantity of opium exported to other countries during each of the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom?

4. Orissa Durg and Chemicals Ltd.

5. Ipitron Ltd.

Of these, one cases was subsequently dismissed as not maintainable. In the remaining 4 cases action is being taken by the BIFR in accordance with the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisional) Act, 1985 and these are under vari-

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Data showing quantity and value of opium (sips & extracts) exported during 1989-90, 1991-92 is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Qty. (tonnes)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. Lakh)</i>
1989-90	256*	1420**
1990-91	475	2693
1991-92	376	3321

(*) (**)= Provisional

(SOURCE : D.G.C.I. & S., Calcutta)

[Translation]

Assistance to States by National Housing Bank

1737. SHRI A. VENKATESHNAIK:
DR. KARTIKESWAR
PATRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount provided by the National Housing Bank to each State for construction and repair of the houses during each of the last two years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

National Housing Bank (NHB) does not lend directly to the States/Union Territories for construction and repair of the houses. NHB, however, provides refinance to scheduled commercial banks, housing finance institutions and State level apex co-operative housing finance societies in respect of eligible loans disbursed by them. NHB has introduced since 1989, schemes for providing financial assistance to inter-alia, scheduled state co-operative banks as also to state level co-operative agricultural and rural development banks. Besides, this, NHB's scheme for refinance to scheduled commercial banks also provides for granting refinance through the sponsor commercial banks in respect of eligible housing loans disbursed through regional rural banks. The disbursement under NHB Refinance Scheme

through the eligible primary lenders together with subscription to Special Rural Housing Debentures (SRHD) floated by State Level Development Banks in respect of their eligible housing loans during the last three years as reported by NHB were as follows:

<i>July-June</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in crores)</i>
1990-91	392.24
1991-92	674.14
1992-93 (upto January, 1993)	246.42

NHD has further reported that State-wise break up of the above data is not yielded by the present reporting system.

[English]

Impact of Import Liberalisation in Exports

1738. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether liberalisation of import of certain commodities has any impact in the trend of increase in volume of exports;

(b) the details of products whose exports have increased due to liberalisation of imports;

(c) whether the Government are still pursuing the policy of import substitution; and

(d) the details of products whose imports are curtailed or stopped due to the success in finding suitable substitution?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Exports

depend on a large number of factors such as availability of surpluses for export, agricultural production, industrial production, availability of credit, inflation rate, domestic demand, domestic policies as also global factors such as global trading environment, economic environment in our trading partner countries, external demand for our products etc. However, it can be said that a deregulated environment in terms of simplification of procedures etc. contributes to faster growth in exports, as compared to a totally regulated export-import regime.

(b) The principal commodities in respect of which exports registered an increase in dollar terms during April-November, 1992 as compared to the corresponding period last year include Engineering Goods, Electronics and computer software, Chemicals and related products, Leather & manufactures, Textiles, Sports Goods, Handicrafts, Carpets, Petroleum products etc.

(c) The Exim Policy, 1992-97 inter-alia, aims to promote efficient and internationally competitive import substitution and self-reliance under a de-regulated framework for foreign trade.

(d) There is a time lag in relating the impact of import substitution on actual imports. However, the principal commodities in respect of which imports registered a decline in dollar terms during April-November, 1992 as compared to the corresponding period last year include Newsprint, Machine Tools, Fertilizers (crude), Edible oil, Artificial resins etc.

Coverage of Factories Under EPF Act

1739. DR. KRUPASINDU BHOI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees' Provident