

(a) whether the Government have ever issued instructions that senior bureaucrats should not go abroad frequently; and

(b) if so, the details of such latest instructions together with the objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Instructions have been issued from time to time to regulate foreign travel of govt. officials with a view to ensuring that officials are deputed abroad only when it is absolutely necessary and the matter cannot be handled by Indian Missions abroad. The number of such deputations and the period of such visits abroad is required to be kept to the minimum to achieve utmost economy in expenditure.

Indian Council of Arbitration Act

1749. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the likely prospects of the Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA) Act, 1940 in the present context of the globalisation of the Indian economy;

(b) whether the Government propose to amend the Indian Council of Arbitration Act; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There is no statute by the name 'Indian Council of Arbitration Act, 1940 in the Indian Statute Book.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Exit Policy

1750. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision in regard to the proposed 'Exit Policy';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). There is no policy that can be termed as 'Exit Policy' in the Government. Therefore, the question of taking any decision in regard to 'Exit Policy' does not arise.

Ministry of Labour is formulating a new Industrial Relations Law with the objective of increasing productivity, generating employment and establishing harmonious industrial relations.

Financial Assistance to Women Entrepreneurs

1751. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance to women entrepreneurs under the 'Mahila Udyam Nidhi' Scheme has been extended;

(b) if so, the details thereof;