

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) No, such report has been received.

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

Fund for Development of Sericulture

4590. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide any financial assistance to States for development of silk industry in their respective State; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years; State-wise particularly to Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). The programmes for development of sericulture are primarily formulated and implemented by the State Sericulture Departments and allocations for the purpose are made directly by the Planning Commission in the Annual Plans of various States.

As far as the Union Government is concerned, it supplements the efforts of the State Governments by extending necessary R&D, extension, training and infrastructural support for the development of sericulture through the Central Silk Board's countrywide network of units. Since the financial assistance is provided to the Central Silk Board for its countrywide activities, it is not feasible to indicate its State-wise breakup.

Restrictive Legislation on Tobacco

4591. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from tobacco growers of Karnataka and other States to oppose the proposed restrictive legislation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Tobacco Board has taken any action to highlight the impact of such restrictive legislation on the farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (e). In view of the health of tobacco use, the Health Ministry propose to enact a legislation providing for restrictions on sale of tobacco and products in certain specified areas, and also ban smoking in identified public places. Government have received several representations for and against the proposed legislation. The Tobacco Board have also passed a resolution on this subject which has been conveyed to the Ministry of Health for due consideration. Government would take a balanced view of all interests and concerns while finalising the proposed legislation.

Foreign Exchange Allowances of Executives Visiting Abroad

4592. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: