

**Export of Wheat and Rice**

1754. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indian delegation has visited several countries abroad for expanding export of wheat and rice;  
(b) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard particularly from UAE, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and China;

(c) if so, the details thereof, country-wise; and

(d) the total quantity of rice and wheat likely to be exported during 1995 and the foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom, country-wise and variety-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Setting up of a Task Force to increase Tobacco Export**

1755. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Task Force to increase the exports of tobacco and tobacco products;

(b) if so, the time by which the said Task Force is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A long term strategy to boost exports is already being implemented by the Tobacco Board and is subject to constant review.

**Joint Venture with Singapore to Develop Tourism**

1756. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tie up with the Government of Singapore has been made for development of tourism in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b). An agreement on Tourism Cooperation between India and Singapore was signed in New Delhi on 24.1.1994. A Tourism Plan for India was prepared by the Singapore Tourism Promotion Board and submitted to the Government of India for consideration. To discuss this a meeting was held between Singapore Tourism Promotion Board and the Department of Tourism on 15.12.94 at New Delhi. Further discussions were held at Calcutta on 4.1.95, wherein the Department of Tourism along with 11 State Governments/UTs interacted

with Singapore Tourism Promotion Board and some entrepreneurs from Singapore on investment opportunities in tourism in India.

**Fifth Pay Commission**

1757. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:  
KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:  
SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA:  
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the working of Fifth Pay Commission for the Central Government employees;

(b) whether the Government have directed the Pay Commission to submit the report within a period of eighteen months;

(c) if so, whether the Commission propose to submit its report within this period; and

(d) if not, the new time frame fixed for the submission of report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) It has been informed by the Commission that it is presently engaged in (i) examining the demands/ suggestion raised in nearly 18000 memoranda submitted by individuals and employees' associations and (ii) conducting on-the-spot study about living and working conditions of Central Government employees in different States. It has also drafted an elaborate questionnaire and circulated the same to 5746 persons in various walks of life to ascertain their views.

(b) to (d) As per the terms of reference of the Commission, the Commission is required to make recommendation as soon as feasible. Further, the terms of reference also provide that the Commission may send a Report on the demands of the Staff Side for grant of another instalment of Interim Relief and merger of a further portion of DA with pay (for the purpose of gratuity alone) if the Commission feels that it will not be possible for them to submit their final Report within a period of 18 months from the date of its appointment.

**Involvement of Private Sector in setting up of Airports**

1758. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE:  
SHRI TARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have expressed willingness to involve private sector in the setting up of international and domestic Airports in the country;

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated to set up new Airports in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?