

Tobacco Exports

4329. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKARESHWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tobacco auctions for the year 1993-94 have already been commenced in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any agreements have been signed with the foreign countries for the export of tobacco so far;

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

(d) the quantity of tobacco likely to be exported during the year 1993-94?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No agreement for export of tobacco as such has been signed. However, in some of the Trade Protocols, etc. there are lists of items agreed/indicated for trade, and tobacco is included in those in specified quantities/values

(d) Tobacco Board has projects a target of 84,000 tons of manufactured tobacco for export during 1993-94.

Impact of Convertibility of Rupee on shipping Industry

4330. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the impact of convertibility of rupee on the country's shipping industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. It is too early for a realistic assessment to be made. However, preliminary indications show that the full convertibility of rupee is not likely to have an adverse impact on the profitability of Indian Shipping Industry.

[Translation]

Export of Basmati Rice

4331. SHRIBHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of Basmati rice exported during the year 1992-93 till date;

(b) the rate at which this rice was exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom: and

(c) the target fixed for export thereof for 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). During April 1992 to February 1993, an estimated quantity of 2,41,775 MTs valued at US\$ 207.70 million has been exported. The unit value works out to be US \$ 860 per MT.

(Source ; APEDA)

(c) No target for export of Basmati rice during 1993-94 has been fixed so far.

Indo-Pak Economic Cooperation

4332. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: