

bazars etc. Action has been initiated by Department of Electronics.

With the above steps and the market forces operating, prices of some models of CTV sets have come down.

#### Outcome of Second round of Thimpu talks

4489. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI B. V. DESAI :

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the outcome of the Second round of the Thimpu talks held during the second week of August, 1985 aimed at arriving at a political settlement of Sri Lanka's ethnic problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : The second round of Thimpu talks on the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka started on the 12th of August. The talks are under way and are not yet concluded.

#### Sales tax on hand-made safety matches in Delhi

4490. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no sales-tax on hand-made safety matches in Delhi ;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that crores of rupees worth safety matches go out of Delhi discreetly daily depriving the neighbouring States of their legitimate revenue such as sales-tax ;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to levy sales tax on hand-made matches in Delhi too ; and

(d) if not, reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) There is no sales tax on handmade safety matches in Delhi.

(b) The Sales Tax Authorities are not aware of any large scale export of handmade safety matches from Delhi to neighbouring States.

(c) and (d). The Delhi Administration have informed that representations in this regard have recently been received by the Administration which are under their examination.

#### Plantation of all forest species of trees

4491. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to plant all the forest species of trees, region wise, so as to provide research and development of facilities for augmenting forestry in our country ; and

(b) details of action taken to protect Rose Wood and Sandal Wood plantations from getting extinct ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) There is no specific scheme in regard to planting of all forest tree species in a particular region. The tree species are selected with due regard to soil and climatic conditions suitable in each region. Tree species are planted under the afforestation programme according to the suitability of soil and climatic conditions in each region and these provide a base for forestry research and development in the sphere of afforestation.

(b) Rose wood and sandal wood are planted in areas where soil and climatic conditions are favourable. In the initial