

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

Use of Regional Languages by Banks

5992. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been issued to nationalised Banks to use regional languages in their day to day dealings with the customers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). In pursuance to official Language Policy of Government, public sector banks have been advised to prepare their cheques, pass books, account opening forms, loan application forms, etc. both in Hindi and English and wherever necessary/feasible additionally in the Regional language also.

In the interest of better service to their customers, bank branches do endeavour to deal with them in local languages wherever necessary/feasible.

Foreign Exchange to Entrepreneurs to visit Foreign Countries

5993. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the foreign exchange given to entrepreneurs to visit foreign countries during 1986-87 ;

(b) the allocation made for 1987-88 ;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the allocation ; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) Presumably, Hon'ble Member is referring to foreign exchange released during 1986-87 for business visits abroad. This information is being collected from the RBI and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No annual allocation is made for visits abroad.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Contribution by Industries towards R&D

5994. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution made by private industries towards research and development (R&D) in India ;

(b) how does it compare with the contributions in foreign countries ; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide any relief package to persuade the private industries to spend more on R&D ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) About 950 in-house R&D units in industry hold valid recognition accorded by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. About 850 of these are in the private sector and they incurred an expenditure of the order of Rs. 330 crores in 1986-87.

(b) Private industries in most developed countries incur much larger expenditures. The R&D in industry by industry is of recent origin in India and it is increasing in recent years.

(c) The suggestions received from in-house R&D units are regularly examined and new initiatives have been brought out from time to time.