

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The value of capital raised by Public Limited listed companies through prospectus during the last 3 years is estimated as below :

(Rs. in crores)

1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
319.75	401.17	915.32

(c) The membership of Stock Exchanges is generally increased by the Stock Exchanges themselves.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) above.

Loans to Poor People for constructing Houses in Rural Areas

2334. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether loans are being provided by Banks to poor persons and weaker sections of the society for constructing houses in rural areas;

(b) if so, the number of banks in Rajasthan which have given loans to the poor and weaker sections of the society for constructing houses and the details thereof, bank-wise; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Banks provide direct housing loans, amongst others, to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and economically weaker sections, in rural, semi-urban as well as in urban areas for constructing houses. Banks are also providing housing finance by way of term loans to State Level Housing Agencies (such as

Housing Finance Corporations and Housing Boards) for provision of housing to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and economically weaker sections conforming to the priority sector norms.

(b) and (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that present data reporting system from banks does not generate information in the manner asked for, as such, separate data for Rajasthan on housing loans by banks to poor, is not available.

[English]

Global Environmental Changes

2335. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there is a considerable change in the global environment;

(b) whether Government propose to enter into treaties with foreign countries to control air pollution to bind those Governments to reduce poisonous gases in the atmosphere and to suitably guide the trade in potentially toxic chemicals;

(c) how far the global environment will change the rainfall patterns in the world; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) and (c). While studies indicate the possibility of a significant warming of the global climate in future resulting in higher rainfall and rise in sea levels leading to the altering of global environment, the conclusions are not complete or final.

(b) and (d). For global environmental protection, the United Nations Environment Programme coordinates the activities among its member countries. India has no treaties with other Governments but interacts with them through the United Nations Environment Programme to protect the environment from air pollution. The United Nations Environment Programme have issued certain

guidelines on the aspect of international trade in potentially toxic chemicals and India broadly abides by them.

Seizure of Uncut Diamonds

2336. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of seizures of cut and uncut diamonds in the month of December, 1986 at Madras by the Customs officials and the C.B.I.;

(b) the value of the diamonds seized;

(c) whether some employees of the Indian Airlines were found involved in the smuggling of such diamonds;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent smuggling of diamonds in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). On 14th December, 1986, in pursuance of an information, the officers of Customs and C.B.I. at Madras intercepted 3 suitcases which had arrived from Singapore for transshipment to Bangalore via Madras. These suitcases were illegally removed from the cargo office after substitution with local suitcases containing old newspaper and magazines. As a result, 100 Kgs. of rough, uncut American diamonds worth Rs. 19.23 lakhs were recovered from the suitcases and seized under the Customs Act.

(c) and (d). In this connection, four persons, including three employees of the Indian Airlines were arrested and remanded to judicial custody.

(e) Anti-smuggling drive throughout the country has been intensified. Keeping in

view the trends in smuggling and seizures made, appropriate action is taken for prevention and detection of smuggling of contraband goods, including diamonds into the country.

UNDP Assistance for Electronic Projects

2337. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether United Nations Development Programme has agreed to assist India in implementing three major projects in the field of Electronics;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount of aid likely to be received for the projects; and

(c) the time schedule for the completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following three projects have been signed for a total UNDP funding of US \$ 12.95 million :

(i) Education and Research in Computer Networking (ERNET). Total amount of aid likely to be received US \$ 6 million.

(ii) Knowledge-Based Computer System Development Programme (KBCS). Total amount of aid likely to be received US \$ 5.25 million.

(iii) Telematics Development and Promotion Programme (TDPP). Total amount of aid likely to be received US \$ 1.7 million.