

Export of Non-Traditional Items to U.K

5299. SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to U.K. he held discussions with the British Government for export of non-traditional items from India;

(b) if so, the names of non-traditional items offered for export; and

(c) the reaction of British Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (c). In the meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee held in New Delhi on 20th and 21st February, 1989, possibilities of expansion as well as diversification of the trade between the two countries was discussed. A suggestion was made that UK could assist in encouraging imports of non-traditional items such as engineering, electronics, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, software, etc. from India. It was agreed that both sides will make efforts to expand trade levels so as to correct the imbalance in trade.

[English]

Survey by TDA on Exports to UAE

5300. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Arab Emirates (UAE) provides vast scope to India for expansion of exports;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted by the Trade Development Authority (TDA) in this regard;

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

(d) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (c). UAE offers good potential for export of India goods such as processed foods, tea, meat and meat preparations, spices, readymade garments, etc. Trade Development Authority has been conducting Market Surveys for various products in this market. Steps taken to increase the level of trade include bilateral discussions at Government to Government level, participation in trade fairs and buyer-seller meets, encouragement to Indian companies to establish direct contacts with their counter-part organisations in UAE etc.

(d) and (e). India has Joint Commission with UAE. Meetings of the joint commission are held periodically with a view to *inter-alia* explore possibilities of increasing bilateral cooperation in economic and commercial fields.

Efforts for Larger flow of Concessional Resources

5310. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI BASAVARAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India pressed hard for a larger flow of concessional resources at the World Bank meeting;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor ; and

(c) to what extent these efforts have been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). At the recently held Development Committee meeting of the World Bank/IMF, India had sought early finalisation of proposals for IDA IX Replenishment and urged for enhanced flow of concessional assistance to low income countries. The IDA VIII Replenishment covers the period from July 1, 1987 to June 30, 1990 for which the donors had committed \$ 12.4 billion. The size of IDA IX, the consultations for which are presently under way, would be known only after the donors finalise their respective commitments.

Income/Wealth Tax on Government Public Undertaking Bonds and Debentures

5302. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Government Public Undertaking bonds and debentures which are free from both Income Tax and Wealth Tax;

(b) the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 and Wealth Tax Act, 1957 under which the above bonds/debentures are free from Income Tax and Wealth Tax;

(c) whether such bonds/debentures purchased after 1 June, 1988 are not entitled to Wealth Tax relief beyond 5 lakhs i.e. without limit and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the above bonds, if purchased from market at present i.e. after 1 June, 1988 and transferred in another name, will be entitled for Income Tax and Wealth Tax

relief as per original terms and conditions of the bonds/debentures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The following tax free bonds & debentures issued by the Government public Undertakings have been declared free from Income-tax and Wealth-tax during 1988-89 (1.4.1988 to 31.3.1989) :-

- (i) 10 year- 9% (tax free) bonds issued by the Housing & Urban Development Corporation.
- (ii) 10 Year-9% (tax free) bonds (C-series) issued by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited.
- (iii) 10 Year- 9% (tax free) N.T.P.C. bonds (IV-issue) (private placement).
- (iv) 10 Year- 9% (tax free) PFC bonds - II series (private placement).
- (v) 10 Year- 9% (tax free) Railway bonds (II issue) of Indian Railway Finance Corporation.
- (vi) 10 Year- 9% (tax free) Bonds (C-series) issued by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited.
- (vii) 10 Year- 9% (tax free) REC bonds.
- (viii) 10 Year- 9% (tax free) Railway bonds (III series) of Indian Railway Finance Corporation.
- (ix) 10 Year- 9% (tax free) REC bonds (19th series) (private placement).