

(c) in the context of India's defence preparedness, whether Government of India have taken note of these developments and taken adequate steps to meet possible threats that may be posed by the employment of such highly sophisticated weapons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Steps are being taken to curb the possible threats through the employment of such highly sophisticated weapons.

Foreign visits by Central Ministers

258. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Central Ministers who visited foreign countries during the period 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1st April, 1982 to 30th June, 1982;

(b) what were the purposes of their visits;

(c) foreign exchange involved in each case; and

(d) results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the Ministries/Departments and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

Demand for Indian Jewellery in Japan

259. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high craftsmanship hand-made Indian jewellery has good chances for export in the Japanese market;

(b) what measures are proposed to gain market in Japan for delicate hand-made Indian jewellery; and

(c) what assistance Government propose to provide to Indian jewellery firms in their efforts to increase off take of our jewellery in the Japanese market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). There is scope for export of Indian jewellery to Japan within the overall policy for export of jewellery from the country. Exchange of delegations, market studies/surveys, closer contacts between Indian jewellers and their counterparts in Japan are some of the measures being taken to promote exports of Indian jewellery to Japan.

Relaxation in Credit Squeeze

260. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the R.B.I. has announced substantial relaxation in its credit squeeze by reducing the cash reserve ratio and providing banks with refinance against food credit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following modifications in the credit policy have been announced:—

(i) The cash reserve ratio was reduced with effect from 9th April 1982 from

7.75 per cent to 7.25 per cent and has been further reduced to 7 per cent with effect from 11th June, 1982.

(ii) The cash reserve ratio in respect of deposits under non-resident (external) rupee account has been reduced with effect from 8th April, 1982 from 7.75 per cent to 3 per cent.

(iii) The refinance entitlement in respect of credit for food procurement has been increased to 50 per cent of the excess over the level of Rs. 2200 crores and 100 per cent over the level of Rs. 2600 crores.

The above modifications are expected to enable the banks to be in a better position to meet the needs of the seasonal industries and other vital sectors.

Increase in Number of Items for Export Duty-Drawback

261. SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have increased the number of items for export duty-drawback; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With effect from 1st June 1982 a number of additional items when exported from India are eligible for duty-drawback at the All-industry rates. Details of these additional items and the corresponding rates of duty drawback for the respective items are given in the annexed statement.

Statement

List of goods which would be eligible for All-Industry rates for the first of time from 1-6-1982

S.No.	Description of goods	Rate of drawback
1	Fruit Jam	Rs. 85.00 per quintal
2	Aluminium chloride	Rs. 915.00 per tonne
3	Distilled water for injections	Drawback on packing materials.
4	Optical whitening agents/fluorescent bleaching agents	10% of f.o.b. value.
5	Ultramarine blue	Rs. 140.00 per tonne.
6	Perfumery compound	6% of f.o.b. value.
7	Zinc phosphide	Rs. 6.00 per kg.
8	Helmet shell made out of glass fibre, reinforced with polyester resin	Rs. 8.00 per kg.
9	Helmets made out of glass fibre, reinforced with polyester resin with fittings and accessories	Rs. 9.50 per kg.
10	V-Belts including fan belts (Polyester construction)	Rs. 10.00 per kg.
11	V-Belts including fan belts (Rayon construction)	Rs. 3.25 per kg.
12	Bicycle/cycle rickshaw tubes made wholly from butyl rubber fitted with valves	Rs. 5.40 per kg.
13	Articles manufactured wholly from butyl rubber	Rs. 4.50 per kg.