

(c) The percentage share of India in the world export approx. are as follows :

Coffee	-	4.00% (1995-96)
Chilli	-	93.46%
Cardamom small	-	3.33%
Cardamom large	-	59.76%
Tobacco	-	3.3% (As per World Trade Export figure of 1994)

(d) The main producing States in the country for the various items are as follows :

Coffee	-	Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu
Tobacco (VFC)	-	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka
Cardamom (small)	-	Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala
Cardamom (large)	-	Sikkim, West Bengal
Chillies	-	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

(e) The steps taken to explore the new market in the world to boost the export of coffee, cardmom chilli and tobacco are as under :

Coffee :

- (i) Regular participation in selected food fares/ exhibition abroad with the active association of exporters.
- (ii) Release of advertisements on the unique features of Indian coffee in selected overseas trade journals like world coffee and tea, coffee and cocoa International, F.O. Light etc.
- (iii) Circulation of especially prepared multi-coloured folders and other literature on Indian coffee
- (iv) Preparation and supply of gift packets of Indian coffee.

Cardamom and Chilli :

Sending delegations to the overseas countries, organising buyer-seller meets, organising world Spice Congress, participation in international fairs etc.

Tobacco :

- (i) Tobacco Board plans FCV tobacco crop size in Andhra Pradesh after obtaining export requirements of trade and industry.
- (ii) Tobacco exports from Andhra Pradesh are allowed to Russia under 'Debt Repayment

Route'. Efforts are being made to enhance tobacco exports to Russia at the rate of 30,000 tonne per year against 'Debt Repayment.

- (iii) Tobacco Board sponsors trade delegations to various countries for promoting tobacco exports from Andhra Pradesh.
- (iv) Participation in the international exhibitions.
- (v) Advertising in the international magazines.

Annual Conference of I.T.

3227. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Annual conference of Income Tax Chief Commissioners and Director General was organised at New Delhi in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some objectives for holding such meeting have been achieved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An All India Conference of Chief Commissioners and Directors General of Income-tax was held in New Delhi on November 13-14, 1996.

(c) to (e). The objectives for holding the Conference are to review the performance of the Department in the preceding months of the financial year and to deliberate on the strategy to be adopted not only to achieve but also to exceed the action plan targets. The Conference also serves as an experience sharing forum for the top tax administrators of the country.

The following specific subjects were discussed in the Conference :

- (i) Review of collection;
- (ii) Review of computerisation work with particular emphasis on allotment of Permanent Account Number and processing of challans;
- (iii) Augmentation of infrastructure;
- (iv) Widening of tax base;
- (v) Suggestions for legislative amendments;
- (vi) Review of limited scrutiny scheme; and
- (vii) Long term training needs.

The aforesaid objectives of holding the Conference were achieved. Administrative decisions were taken and suggestions made in the Conference were noted for future action.