

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT  
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are already 2 Major Ports in Tamil Nadu and there is no necessity at present to declare the Cuddalore Port as a Major Port. Moreover, the traffic at Cuddalore Port does not justify its being declared as a Major Port.

#### **Exim Scrips to Tourism Industry**

1721. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:  
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tourism industry has applied for EXIM Scrips to help them import communications, office and hotel equipment, luxury coaches and automobiles etc.; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The tourism industry had sought Exims scrips against their foreign exchange earning. However, before a final view in the matter could be taken, partial convertibility of the Rupee has been introduced and consequently the instrument of Exims scrip has been abolished.

#### **Violation of Fera by Cigarette Companies**

1722. SHRI A. ASOKRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government/Reserve Bank of India have received some complaints from some Members of Parliament about violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 by some cigarette companies by using foreign brand names of their various brands of cigarettes in the country without the approval of the R.B.I.;

(b) if so, the facts and details in this regard; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c): The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has instituted inquiries against M/s. Godfrey Phillips (India) Ltd., Bombay and M/s. ITC Ltd., Calcutta for their alleged indulging in unfair trade practice within the meaning of Section 36 A(1) of the M.R.T.P. Act by using foreign brand names for their brands of cigarette in the country.

The High Court of Delhi has stayed the proceedings before the commission against M/s. Godfrey Phillips.

[Translation]

#### **Development of Carpet-Durri and Handicrafts**

1723. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL:  
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any national policy for the development of carpet, durri and handicrafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether the Government are aware that the carpet industry is facing difficulties

in the absence of proper Government protection; and

(d) If so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. For the development of handicrafts including carpet and durri, the objectives of the 8th Five Year Plan are as follows:-

(i) To enhance the opportunities of income and employment from crafts as an economic activity.

(ii) To harness export potential as a measure of increasing the foreign exchange earnings of the country.

(c) and (d). The carpet industry is not facing difficulties as stated and it is evident from the increase in the exports of carpets from India during the last three years.

Years	(Rs. in crores)
1989-90	420.08 (provisional)
1990-91	507.00 (provisional)
1991-92 (April-Dec.)	553.86 (provisional)

However, the following incentives have among other support been provided by government to boost the exports of carpets:

(i) An Export Promotion Council for Carpets has been set up,

(ii) Concessional duty of 10% on carpet grade wool as against 40% on other wool,

(iii) Duty draw-back @ 3% of f.o.b. value,

iv) Pre-shipment credit for 180 days for carpets as against 90 days for other exports, and

v) Concessional rate of interest on post-shipment credit as available to other exports.

[English]

### Protection and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights

1724. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. has sought public comment on acts, policies and practices of the Government of India concerning the Protection and enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights and market-access conditions for motion pictures as reported in the Hindustan Times dated January 29, 1992; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) In January, 1992, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) issued a notice inviting written comments from the public by 24 February, 1992, as to whether acts, policies and practices of the Government of India concerning the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights and market access for motion pictures are "unreasonable" and burden or restrict US commerce, and if so, what responsive action, if any, should be taken by the United States.

(b) Government are satisfied that our laws relating to trade-marks and copyright, together with some amendments proposed to the copyright Act, are adequate. A decl-