

1	2	3
75.	M/s. Sujatha Films P. Ltd.	650.42
76.	Late Smitha	10.26
77.	Sh. K. Subramanian	213.75
78.	Sh. G. Venkateshwaran	71.99
79.	Sh. K.J. Yesudoss	16.55
80.	Sh. R. Vijay Chandran	34.29
81.	Sh. Anjan Choudhry	28.96
82.	M/s. Misrilal Pictures (P) Ltd.	69.42
83.	Sh. Monotosh Das Gupta	15.40
84.	M/s. Shanti Film Corpn.	10.78
85.	M/s. Neptune Enterprises	16.22
86.	M/s. Navrang Cine Theatres Pvt. Ltd.	83.33
87.	M/s. Zefo Films Pvt. Ltd.	12.89
88.	M/s. Sumeet Film	10.14
89.	M/s. B.R.T.V.	18.99
90.	Sh. Prakash Mehra	17.03
91.	M/s. Dharma Productions Pvt. Ltd.	16.47
92.	Sh. Sawan Kumar Tak	29.04
93.	Sh. Pankaj Udhas	27.84
94.	M/s. Deluxe Pictures (Delhi)	12.58
95.	M/s. Associated Film Industries Pvt. Ltd.	25.50

#### Import of Rubber

2750. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for canalising rubber import through STC as and when needed instead of permitting individual manufacturers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Penal Duties Against Newsprint

2751. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newspaper industry has protested against the findings of the Anti dumping cell of the Ministry of Commerce recommending penal duties against newsprint from three countries; and

(b) if so, the action taken to protect the indigenous industry of newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The Indian Newspaper Society and others have requested the Government not to impose provisional anti-dumping duties on newsprint imported from United States of America, Canada and Russia which have been recommended by the Designated Authority in its preliminary findings relating to the period 1.4.1996 to 31.10.1996.

(b) The Government has already imposed a 10% ad valorem customs duty on imported newsprint with effect from 29.10.1996, in view, inter-alia, of the decline in international prices of newsprint and the average cost of production of the indigenous newsprint industry. However, the Government is also examining the recommendations of the Designated Authority in respect of provisional anti-dumping duties and a decision thereon will be taken at the appropriate time.

#### Indian Economy

2752. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the current financial year the gloomy functioning of the economy in the country is due to continuing industrial recession as well as poor foreign trade performance leading to monetary and fiscal management difficulties; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) As per the quick estimates of C.S.O., in April 1997, the latest month for which data are available in the current financial year, overall industrial production, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), registered a growth of 9.8 per cent compared to 8.1 per cent in April 1996. The manufacturing sector registered a higher growth of 11.7 per cent compared to 9 per cent growth in the same month last year.

During April-June 1997, the latest period for which foreign trade data are available, exports (in US dollar terms) registered decline of 0.95 per cent. However, imports against (in US dollar terms) registered a 4.22 per cent growth, and non-oil imports which, inter-alia includes raw materials and capital goods, registered a higher growth of 8.42 per cent during the same period.

The Union Budget, 1997-98 outlines the process of fiscal adjustment within the framework of the Common Minimum Programme. The Budget envisages a further reduction in gross fiscal deficit as a proportion of gross domestic product from 5 per cent in 1996-97 (RE) to 4.5 per cent in 1997-98 (BE). Besides, consequent upon reduction of the Bank Rate by the RBI, prime lending rates of banks have come down, and there has been a

considerable easing of liquidity constraints. Interest rates on 91 days and 364 days treasury bills have also come down because of comfortable liquidity with the banks. Between April-June 1997, sanctions of financial assistance by the All India Financial Institutions have also recorded a growth of 4.7 per cent.

The above measures are likely to have a favourable impact on Industrial growth in the current year.

#### **Problems faced by Japanese Companies**

2753. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Japanese companies set up in the country have been facing peculiar kinds of difficulties including demand by locals to give them employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken to ensure that investment from that country is not discouraged?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The Government is committed to facilitating the implementation of projects involving Foreign Direct Investment that have been approved. Accordingly, Government has taken a number of steps which include interaction with investors and State Governments to identify bottlenecks and problem areas and thereby attempt to have them resolved. This would apply to all countries including Japan. Wherever required, appropriate steps are taken so as to have an open, transparent and investor-friendly approval mechanism and to expeditiously resolve problems.

Government has received feedback that Chief Executives of several Japanese companies are having a positive assessment of the economic reforms in India. They now recognise that India represents a huge market with a growing demand base.

#### **Incentives Under the Deemed Exports Clause**

2754. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have withdrawn the incentives under the deemed exports clause to the supplies for notified projects in the power, oil and gas sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The deemed exports benefits for supplies of goods to the Power, Oil and Gas Sectors are available as per Paragraph 10.2(g) of EXIM Policy (1997-2002) and corresponding Paragraph 10.11 of Handbook Vol.1 (1997-2002). These Paragraphs have been further amended vide Notification No. 10 dated 29.7.97 and Public Notice No. 29 dated 29.7.97 respectively, there by also extending such benefits to Refinery Projects.

[*Translation*]

#### **Export of Iron Ore**

2755. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of iron ore exported to foreign countries from the iron ore mines of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the rates separately on which this iron ore was exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The quantum of exports from iron ore Mines of Madhya Pradesh in the last three years is as under:

(Qty: Lakh MT)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Lumps	26.58	26.97	22.04
Fines	15.26	13.13	15.81
Total:	41.84	40.10	37.85

(b) The rates at which iron ore was exported during the last three years are as under:

(Val: US \$/Tonne)

(F.O.B. Vizag Port)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Lumps	20.85	22.49	23.61
Fines	16.02	16.95	17.96

[*English*]

#### **Dearness Allowance**

2756. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to release one instalment of Dearness Allowance to the Central Government Servants in view of price rise and increase in price index;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be released; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees is revised twice a year from 1st January and 1st July payable with the salary for the months of March and September respectively. The decision regarding another instalment of Dearness Allowance effective from 1.7.1997 will be taken well before it is payable in September, 1997.