

and National Insurance Co. Ltd. have already been filled up. All necessary steps are being taken by the Government to fill in the post of Chairman-cum-Managing Director, United India Insurance Co. Ltd.

#### Export of Jute

397. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of jute;

(b) the total amount worth jute goods exported during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of the projections made for the year 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) The Government has taken a number of measures to boost the export of jute and jute goods to various international markets, viz., participation in international fairs, organising buyers'- sellers' meets, liaising with importers and the users, funding R and D activities to develop a new range of diversified jute products to suit consumer preferences, External Market Assistance Scheme, setting up of the National Centre for Jute Diversification, launching of the UNDP assisted National Jute Development Programme to focus attention on market promotion of jute diversified products.

(b) The amount worth of jute goods exported during the last three years was as follows :

Year	Amount (Rs./crores)
1993-94	380.00
1994-95	480.00
1995-96	634.00

(c) The Government has projected an export target of jute goods worth US \$ 180 million (Rs. 630 crores approximately) for the year 1996-97.

[Translation]

#### World Bank Assistance for the Abolition of Corruption

398. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Bharstachar Khatm Karne mein Vishwa Bank Madad Karega, as appeared in the Nav Bharat Times dated October 22, 1996;

(b) if so, the manner in which the World Bank proposed to assist India in the elimination of corruption; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The topic of corruption in India was not raised by the World Bank President or any other Bank official with Government of India during Mr. Wolfensohn's visit to India in October 1996 or subsequently.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Foreign Exchange

399. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

The amount of foreign exchange granted for business, Foreign Trips, Medical, Religion and trade fair purposes, separately during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Information is being collected from RBI to the extent RBI and its Regional Offices have released foreign exchange for the purposes asked for and will be laid on the Table of the House.

In the wake of economic liberalisation, powers have been delegated to Authorised Dealers to release admissible foreign exchange for business, foreign trips, medical, religion and trade fair purposes. There are 103 banks and other institutions who have been issued licences to deal in foreign exchange. These banks and institutions have 27,806 foreign exchange dealing branches spread all over India. It will involve a great effort and time to collect the information and the purpose achieved will not be commensurate with the efforts put in.

#### Export of Iron ore by MMTC

400. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of iron-ore exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) whether a greater emphasis has been laid by the MMTC to increase the export of iron-ore during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target set for export of iron-ore by MMTC and the achievements made so far during the Eighth Plan period;

(d) the details of countries to whom iron-ore is being exported at present; and

(e) the details of countries with whom negotiations have been made to export iron-ore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The details about total quantity of iron ore exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom by MMTC during the 7th Five Year Plan period are as under :

Qty : lakh tonnes  
Val : Rs crores

Year	Qty.	Value
1985-86	163.96	335.69
1986-87	180.20	362.98
1987-88	145.85	294.42
1988-89	176.45	381.29
1989-90	175.20	496.77
Total	841.66	1871.15

(b) and (c). As per the Government Policy, iron ore surplus to domestic requirements is being exported. MMTC has made efforts to maximise iron ore exports during the Eighth Plan. The details regarding year-wise targets as well as exports of iron ore effected by MMTC during the Eighth Plan are as under :

(In Rs. crores)

Year	Target	Performance
1992-93	738.00	658.94
1993-94	667.89	633.60
1994-95	584.75	660.80
1995-96	688.28	688.90
1996-97 (Apl.-Oct '96)	724.20	396.39

(d) Presently, iron ore is being mainly exported to Japan, South Korea, China, Pakistan and UAE by MMTC.

(e) During this year, MMTC has signed a five-year Long-term Agreement with Japan and South Korea for export of various grades of iron ore. Another Long term Agreement has been signed with Pakistan, which is valid up to August '97. Proposals have also been received by MMTC for entering into Long-term Agreements with Thailand, China and Saudi Arabia.

#### Policy Paper on PSUs

401. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring out a policy paper on public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal to bring out any separate policy paper on the PSUs at the present

since the broad policy parameters have been spelt out in the Common Minimum Programme. To start with, a comprehensive package in respect of PSUs under the administrative control of Ministry of Industry (Department of Heavy Industry) is in the process of being finalised.

#### Import of Non-Ferrous Metal Waste

402. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of non-ferrous metal waste still continues;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the current licensing system has failed to meet the import demand; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). Under the current Export and Import Policy, import of certain specified non-ferrous metal scraps identified by the ISRI (Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries) Code Word are permitted freely by all persons. Such imports are basically meant for recycling use. However, Import of all other non-ferrous metal waste and scrap continues to be regulated under the licensing system.

#### Hindustan Cables Ltd.

403. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Cables Ltd. is incurring losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any short and long term plan have been taken to check the losses;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the order book position of Hindustan Cables Ltd. during each of the last three years and till date; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the fresh orders?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir, Hindustan Cables Ltd. has been incurring losses since 1995-96.

(b) The main reasons for loss are low production due to acute shortage of working capital and huge sundry debtors alongwith excessive manpower cost and high interest charges.

(c) and (d).

i. Government has given guarantee for HCL's overdrawing against cash credit account.