

(c) The criteria for selection for overseas deputation comprise seniority-cumoverall merit of the employees. The nomination is made keeping in view the requirement and size of each event.

The details of SC/ST employees of ITPO sent on foreign deputation for organising participation in fairs/exhibitions abroad during the last three years are given below :-

Group	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
A	6	2	11	3	7	2
B	3	-	-	2	1	1
C	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	-	-	-	-	-	-

Income Tax Settlement Commission

2498. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the aggregate amount of Income-tax and interest (if adjudicated at maximum rates) involved in the petitions which are pending, after admission, before the Income-tax Settlement Commission; and

(b) the number of cases and the aggregate amount of tax, interest and penalties involved in them, which are pending for over five years with the Income-tax Settlement Commission though no stay has been given by any court for further proceedings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE & INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARATHANAN) : (a) On admission of an application for settlement, the entire tax on additional income declared before the Settlement Commission, becomes payable by the applicant within 35 days of the receipt of the admission order u/s 245 D(1) of the Income-tax Act. This tax, if not paid within the stipulated period of 35 days, is recovered by the Assessing Officer in Income-tax, Deptt. in accordance with the powers under the Income-tax Act, alongwith simple interest @ 15% per annum on the amount remaining unpaid from the date of expiry of the period of 35 days. Further tax/interest, if any, becomes payable only on passing of final order of settlement under Section 245D(4) of Income-tax Act. Thus, in respect of applications pending for final settlement after admission, the further tax/interest involved can be known only when final orders of settlement u/s 245D(4) are passed.

(b) 405 cases are pending (as on 1.5.1998) with the Settlement Commission, for more than five years, after admission. The tax/interest /penalty involved in these cases

will be known only when final orders of Settlement under Section 245D(4) are passed.

WTO Centre

2499. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Institute of Foreign Trade propose to set up a World Trade Organisation Centre in order to study various aspects of the new international trade regime and establish a data base on latest trends;

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

(c) whether a similar organisation is also proposed to be set up to assist the hundred percent export- oriented units as a measure to boost the export; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed centre would be headed by an eminent expert in the field of international trade. The activities of the centre would be as follows:-

(i) To conduct research on specific policy related issues assigned by MOC from time to time.

(ii) To provide all necessary documents, research work relating to WTO negotiations.

(iii) To act as a storehouse and documentation centre for information/data pertaining to WTO related issues.

(iv) To conduct short term courses, orientation courses and awareness programmes for familiarising members of the business community with WTO related issues.

(v) To bring out publications and handbooks for use of trade and industry.

(vi) Any other task assigned by the Govt., relating to WTO matters.

The centre is expected to become operational during the year 1998-99.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Schemes by STC & MMTC

2500. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation have formulated

certain schemes to promote and build export success for small and tiny industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance/facilities provided to these industries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (c) While STC does not operate any specific scheme to promote and build export sector for small & tiny industries, MMTC in the area of minerals & ores, has formulated the following schemes to promote production and export:-

- mine owners are provided production and development incentives apart from basic price for the product. Under production incentive scheme, mine owners are encouraged to produce more and earn incentive on the entire quantity in case supply exceeds the base level which are revised from year to year based on the past performance.
- mine owners are also given incentives in relation to the quantity supplied under the "development incentive scheme" to encourage them in scientific development of their mines.
- MMTC also pays afforestation charges to the mine owners for plantation of tree and plants to maintain proper ecological balance in the mining areas.
- In order to ensure that mine owners' interests in export continues and they become globally competitive in the long run, the advantage of

exchange benefit is also shared with them from time to time.

- Wherever possible, MMTC encourage mine owners to supply material directly at the port so that they can avail the benefit of 80 HHC under the Income-tax Act for the local transportation element as well.
- MMTC also strives to provide export outlet and facilitate export of material surplus to domestic demand from mine owners who otherwise have no access to the global market or where withal to organise logistic support and arrange export independently.
- MMTC generate orders, help them in executing those order by providing assistance in preparation of documents, shipping arrangements and extending packing credit facilities etc.

Assistance by ADB for Development of Ports

2501. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Asian Development Bank is providing funds for the development of various ports in the Country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the projects being financed by the Asian Development Bank, Port-wise; and

(c) the details of Progress achieved so far?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) The details of the existing projects approved by ADB for assistance for Development of Ports in India are as follows:

Name of Project	Brief Project Components	Amount of assistance US\$	Date of approval	Date of Closing	Loan utilisation US\$
1	2	3	4	5	6
Coal Ports Project	Coal Handling Plant & Wharfs in Paradip Port & Dev. of Ennore Port.	285 million	27 Oct. 1992	30 May 2000	60.632 million
Mumbai Port Project	Replacement of submarine pipelines, modernisation of oil berths.	\$97.8 million	29 Sep. 1997	30 Sep. 2003	nil
Chennai Port Project	Rehabilitation of the existing berths.	\$15.2 million	29 Sep. 1997	30 March 2003	nil

Visit of Italian Trade Team to India

2502. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Italian trade team visited India during 1997;

(b) if so, the purpose of their visits;