

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government closely monitors all developments including those relating to Pakistan's missile programme. India is concerned over Pakistan's missile programme and its impact on the region's security. Government is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

Soft Drinks

5087. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that indigenous soft drink industry has virtually been wiped out due to marketing of multi-national for their soft drink products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) In view of liberalization of our economy, Multi-National Companies have also come to operate in the soft drink sector. They have established concentrate manufacturing units and have also entered into franchise agreement with large number of Indian bottlers for bottling of their brands. These bottling units are operating as per terms and conditions of the agreement entered between the MNCs and the owners of the Bottling Plants.

Export of Wind Turbines

5088. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of wind turbines exported during the last three years;

(b) the countries to which wind turbines were exported;

(c) the total foreign exchange earned;

(d) whether there is great demand for the wind turbines from various countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) One wind turbine of 230 KW was exported to Australia by an Indian manufacturing company in March, 1998. The total value

of the export order was about DM 450,000, equivalent to Rs. 90 lakhs.

(d) and (e) Opportunities for export of wind turbines to neighbouring and other developing countries are being actively explored by the Indian wind turbine companies. Initial contacts have been made in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Bolivia and Argentina. In addition, Rs. 12 crore of foreign exchange was earned from export of wind turbine components to Europe during 1997-98.

[Translation]

Construction of DAM

5089. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to construct a dam over the river Pawati to provide better irrigation facilities to the farmers of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) No, Sir, Irrigation being a State subject, it is for the Government of Rajasthan to construct a dam over the river Pawati for providing irrigation facilities to its farmers.

[English]

Information Technology Market

5090. SHRI M. RAJAI AH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether growth rate in the information technology market is declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for slow growth rate; and

(c) the measures proposed to develop the information technology sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) No, Sir. There has been increase in the growth rate of the Information Technology sector during last 3 years as mentioned below :

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Growth rate	28%	40%	41%

(b) Does not arise.