

(c) the steps being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (c) Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry has not suggested any change in the Exim Bank Policy for reducing import intensity of exports. However, their suggestions along with those of other such Associations, have been received for improving the competitiveness of Indian industry in the global market. The Government is giving due consideration to all these suggestions while finalising the amendments to the EXIM Policy which is likely to be notified soon.

Reservation Bank ID
Backlog of Reserved Vacancies
Nationalised Bank

1529. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of reserved posts in various nationalised banks, category-wise, as on March 31, 1998; and

(b) the steps taken to clear this backlog till 31st January, 1999?

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) The backlog of reserved posts for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) (as on 30.6.1998) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) (as on 31.12.1997) in 19 nationalised banks is given below:—

Cadre	SC	ST	OBC
Officers	149	106	109
Clerks	601	835	959
Sub-staff	366	664	832

(b) Nationalised Banks have taken necessary action for recruitment of employees belonging to reserved categories in order to clear the backlog.

Cases of WCL and SECL in High Court/ Supreme Court

1530. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR "BIJOY" :
 SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
 (JAHANABAD):

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases registered with Labour Tribunal Boards have been challenged in the Jabalpur High Court and Supreme Court by the W.C.L. and S.E.C.L. units of Coal India Ltd. without the permission of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) the number of cases filed by W.C.L. and S.E.C.L. against the Labour Tribunal Boards pending in Jabalpur High Court and Supreme Court, till date;

(d) whether some of the cases in the above courts are lingering for the last eight years;

(e) if so, the amount paid to advocates as fee by these companies during the above period; and

(f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to settle the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Export of Iron Ore

1531. MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron ore exported during 1997 and 1998, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to restrict the export of iron ore instead export of semi-finished steel items;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Sir, the quantity of iron ore exported during 1997-98 and 1998-99 (Apr. Nov.) country-wise is as follows:—

(Qty. in Tonnes)		
Country	1997-98	1998-99 (Apr.-Nov.)
1	2	3
Australia	650247	334000
China	5571821	2652225
Japan	14330401	5831200
Korea, Republic	713381	621989
Netherland	762909	444210
Pakistan	441282	144100
United Arab Emirates	73300	37600
Turkey	309734	49500
Italy	471670	248160
Iran	1482428	578519
France	374000	138300
Bangladesh	200	—
Belgium	333900	278650
Bhutan	135	—
Chile	45000	—

1	2	3
Germany	125543	—
Indonesia	40,000	—
Nepal	4050	24
Romania	284400	258000
Rwanda	221800	—
Chinese Taipei	1419367	691557
U.K.	—	99000
USA	—	8870
Total	27655568	12418204

Source : DGCI & S

(b) to (d) As per the Exim Policy, the Government has laid down quantitative and qualitative restrictions on export of iron ore taking into consideration the domestic requirement for this item and the demand in the international market.

Companies Registered with SEBI

1532. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Non-Information Technology companies are registering themselves as Information Technology companies on the stock market;

(b) if so, the number of companies have been detected by the SEBI; and

(c) the action taken by the SEBI against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) SEBI have informed that so far, 25 instances of non-information technology companies changing their names to software and infotech companies have come to their notice.