

(c) The foreign exchange earned during the last 3 years is as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total foreign exchange earned (Rs. in crore)</i>
1987-88	19.01
1988-89	14.65
1989-90	23.45 (Prov)

(d) India is the only producer of opium for export to meet its licit world requirements for medical purposes. It is cultivated in the traditional poppy growing areas in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Indian opium has been facing stiff competition in the international market from the concentrate of poppy straw, an alternate raw material, which has affected our exports and resulted in accumulation of huge stocks. Therefore, the Government have been constrained to reduce the area under poppy cultivation over the years.

[*English*]

News-Item Entitled "Big Haul of Foreign Currencies"

5772. SHRI D. AMAT:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-
HIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Big haul of foreign currencies" appearing in the "Indian Express" dated 22 March, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF.

MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consequent upon searches conducted by the Officers of the Directorate of Enforcement on 20.3.90 at the premises of Shri Praduman Kumar Jain, Delhi, foreign currencies of the value of Rs. 3.65 lakhs and Indian currency amounting to Rs. 3.88 lakhs besides documents were seized. During the course of the search, three persons who visited his business premises were also searched and foreign currencies amounting to Rs. 20,000/- in addition to Indian currency of Rs. 19,260 and some documents were seized from their persons. Shri Praduman Kumar Jain along with Shri Sanjay Kumar Jain, one of the persons who had visited his business premises, were arrested on 21.3.90 and produced before the court who remanded them to judicial custody. Action as warranted under the law has been initiated against the concerned parties.

[*Translation*]

Export of Marble

5773. SHRI GULABCHAND KATARIA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Udaipur (Rajasthan) has acquired important place in the field of marble production;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to export marble from this area; and

(c) the number of exporters who have been given export facilities by Government and the number of additional applications under the consideration of Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Surface deposits of various types of marble are available in

Udaipur and other Districts of Rajasthan.

(b) Marble tiles and marble chips are freely allowed for export. Exporters registered with Chemicals & Allied Products Export Promotion Council are given the facility of participation in fairs/exhibitions overseas, undertake individual export promotion tours abroad and publicity through various media at subsidised rates and all other export benefits/facilities available under the Import and Export policy.

(c) So far only one unit has been approved for export production of cultured marble under the 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU) Scheme and another application has been received by the Government.

[English]

Criteria for selection of Artistes for T.V. and Radio

5774. DR. VENKATESH KABDE:
SHRI P. PENCHALAI AH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for selection of programmes of artistes for T.V. and Radio;

(b) whether artistes from big cities only get the benefit of casting their programme through T.V. and Radio; and

(c) if so, the steps contemplated by Government to allow equal opportunity to budding artistes and artistes from backward regions including Marathwada region of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) Talent, suitability for a programme, quality of performance and the need for variety are the criteria for selection of artistes for programmes on Doordarshan and All India Radio. This selection is done as per the prescribed procedure which ensures objectivity and dispassionate assessment of the artistes.

(b) No, Sirs; and

(c) Does not arise.

Memorandum of ITDC Employees Union

5775. PROF. SHAILENDRA NATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation Employees Union submitted a Memorandum dated 26th December, 1989 to Government in connection with various demands/grievances of India, Tourism Development Corporation employees and other major issues concerning Tourism Policy of Government.

(b) whether any action has been taken to redress the outstanding grievances of the employees; and

(c) if so, the details of issues/grievances as sorted out so far and also the list of those outstanding issues still drawing the attention of the agencies concerned for redressal?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) to (c). The Memorandum submitted by the All India ITDC Employees Union (AT-TUC) contained largely matters dealt with by ITDC. These issues have been considered by the Committee on Public Undertakings in its 61st Report on ITDC.