

Import Duty on Paraxylene

5802. SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of manufacturers who import Paraxylene:

(b) the current Import duty on Paraxylene:

(c) whether it is a fact that the landed cost of Paraxylene with Import duty is far too low than the fair selling price of Paraxylene produced in India: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) During 1989-90, IPCL alone imported paraxylene as the canalising agency.

(b) The total import duty on paraxylene is 80% *ad valorem*.

(c) and (d). At current levels of import duty and international prices, the landed cost of paraxylene is around Rs. 14,000 per MT which is less than the last reported selling price of indigenous paraxylene.

Foreign Assistance for the Development of Tourism in Karnataka

5803. SHRI C.R. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA:
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan and some other private organisations are assisting in a project for the development of tourism in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project would be completed during Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details of places where the foreign assistance would be utilised for the development of Tourism in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). A dialogue in this regard has been initiated with the Government of Japan but nothing concrete has, however, so far emerged.

Paraxylene Prices

5804. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether customs duty of commodities is normally fixed with a view to maintain a balance between the domestic price and international price of a commodity;

(b) whether it has been proposed in the Budget 1990-91 to increase customs duty on MEG from existing 90% to 150% *ad valorem* because the MEG price in the international market is ruling low;

(c) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that paraxylene prices have also been dropping considerably in the international market over past one year; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) Maintaining a balance between the domestic price and international price is one of the factors generally taken into consideration in fixing cus-

toms duty.

(b) In the Budget 1990-91, keeping in view the decline in the international price of MEG, import duty on that item was increased from 90% (basic + auxiliary) to 150% (basic + auxiliary).

(c) and (d). There are reports that the international prices of paraxylene have been showing a downward trend and Government has taken a note of the same.

Trade with Burma

5805. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enter into a bilateral agreement with Burmese Government with a view to improving trade of raw materials, foodgrains, agricultural products and manufactured goods, between the two countries; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to import timber, rice etc. from against exports of manufactured goods to Burma?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF

MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Proposal to Create More Post of Judges in Delhi

5806. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY:
SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in different courts of Delhi;

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken for expeditious disposal of these cases; and

(c) whether Government propose to create some new posts of judges to dispose of pending cases in various courts of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The number of pending cases in different courts of Delhi is as follows:

	<i>Pendency as on 31.12.1989</i>
Delhi High Court	109495
District/Addl. District and Sessions Courts	35228
Subordinate Courts	366720

(b) Various steps have been taken by the Government, from time to time, to reduce pendency of cases in the Courts. A Committee of 3 Chief Justices of High Courts has

been constituted in January, 1989 to make an in depth study of the problem of arrears in Courts and to suggest remedial measures.