

Year	Total No. of agents	Commission paid
1984-85	1.23 lakhs	Rs. 50 Crores
1985-86	1.54 lakhs	Rs. 67 Crores
1986-87	1.74 lakhs	Rs. 71 Crores

Trade Expansion with U.S.

*791. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-U.S. Joint Business Council has suggested to step up bilateral trade by \$ 1 billion;

(b) if so, the items of trade identified;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the salient features of the agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) and (b). At the meeting of Indo-US Business Council held in May, 1987, at Washington, D.C., USA, one of the Working Groups set up was on Technology Transfer. This Working Group in turn had set up a Task Force which held its meeting in New Delhi in March, 1988. At this Meeting, a suggestion was made that efforts should be made to increase bilateral trade by US \$ one billion. No further details were discussed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sale of Confiscated Foreign Goods by Customs Department

*793. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Customs Department sells the confiscated foreign goods; and

(b) if so, the value of the foreign goods confiscated by customs in Madras and Bombay during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 and the value of goods sold by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The value of foreign goods confiscated by the Customs in Madras and Bombay and the value of goods sold by them during the calendar years 1985, 1986 and 1987 are given below :

(Value : Rs. in crores)

Year	Value of goods confiscated		Value of goods disposed of	
	Bombay	Madras	Bombay	Madras
1985	45.34	4.19	40.34	2.72
1986	65.90	7.66	48.87	3.29
1987	74.87	5.86	73.00	4.14

[English]

Credit Camp in Cochin

*794. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the credit camps are being continued; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposed credit camp in Cochin is likely to be conducted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Credit camps are organised by public sector banks as a part of the overall measures undertaken by them to give accelerated credit support to weaker sections.

(b) According to Union Bank of India, which is the lead bank of the area, no date has yet been fixed for holding a credit camp at Cochin.