

(a) whether any World Bank assistance has been given to Tamil Nadu for development of any towns; and

(b) if so, the names of the towns to be developed and the amount earmarked for each town?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Development Credit agreement for IDA Credit equivalent to \$ 300.2 million was entered into on 16.9.88 for implementation of Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project. The project covers ten urban agglomerations of Madras, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Salem, Tirunelveli, Erode, Tuticorin, Vellore and Tiruppur. No specific allocation has been earmarked for individual towns.

Denudation of Forest Area in Punjab

1500. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of denudation of forest area in Punjab during the last three years;

(b) whether it has been causing adverse effects on environment; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Onion Seeds

1501. SHRICHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow the export of onion seeds so that farmers can get better prices of their products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target fixed for export of onion seeds?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Export of Fresh Vegetables, Fruits and Dry Fruits

1502. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fresh vegetables, fruits and dry fruits are being exported;

(b) if so, the names of fresh vegetables, fruits and dry fruits and the names of countries to which these have been exported during the last three years; and

(c) the foreign exchange earnings from these items during the years 1988, 1989 and 1990?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Fresh vegetables such as onions, lady fingers, chillies, bitter gourd and other assorted vegetables like beans, brinjals, arbi etc., fresh fruits like mangoes, grapes, water melons, citrus fruits and apples and walnut kernels among dry fruits are being exported. The major countries to which these were exported and the foreign exchange earned on their export are given in the statement below.