

[English]

Foreign Visits of Commerce Minister

1554. SHRIM.V.CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited some foreign countries recently for development of international trade;

(b) if so, the names of countries visited and whether any agreements have been reached with these countries during the visit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure incurred on these foreign trips?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Visits were undertaken to Belgium and Afganistan during December, 1990-January, 1991:

- (i) The visit to Belgium (Brussels) was in connection with the Ministerial meeting on Uruguay Round Negotiations. However, because of the differences between the major contracting parties on issues relating to Subsidies on Agricultural Products, no agreements could be reached at the meeting. Enroute he visited Tunisia and held trade talks with Tunisian authorities.
- (ii) During the visit to Afganistan he discussed Trade and Economic cooperation with the Commerce Minister/Vice PM and Minister of Planning of Afganistan. He also called on Prime Minister and President of Afganistan During his visit.

(iii) The total expenditure on the visits is estimated around Rs. 240000/-.

IFC's aid to Indian companies

1555. SHRIM.V.CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank has proposed to step up its assistance to Indian companies;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance likely to be given to Indian companies during the current financial year;

(c) the details of the Indian companies to which the International Finance Corporation would render assistance and on what terms and conditions; and

(d) the extent to which it will help in overcoming the tight foreign exchange position?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). In FY 1990 (1.7.1989 to 30.6.1990) the assistance provided by IFC was \$ 147.11 million to ten companies. These ten companies are:

1. Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.
2. Mahindra UGINE Steel Co. Ltd.
3. Keltron Telephones Ltd.
4. Technology Development and Information Company of India Ltd.
5. India Lease Development Ltd.
6. Infrastructure Leasing and Finance Co. Ltd.

7. Calcutta Electric Supply Co. Ltd.

[Translation]

8. Tata Electric Companies.

Export of Indo-American Hybrid Seeds

9. Herdilla Oxides Ltd.

1557. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRIPHOOLCHAND VERMA:

10. Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

No target has been fixed for FY 1991 by IFC for lending to India. The assistance provided by IFC will augment the foreign exchange resources of the country.

(a) whether Indo-American Hybrid Seeds are being exported to USA, UK, Denmark and other European countries;

Grant of Handwood to Villagers in A & N Island

(b) if so, the total quantity and value of seeds exported during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90, year-wise, separately;

1556. SHRIMANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(c) the quantity and value of seeds proposed to be exported in 1990-91;

(a) the number of cases pending, division-wise, with the Andaman and Nicobar Island Forest Department for grant of 15 cu. m. handwood for construction of houses; and

(d) whether these seeds are useful for small and marginal farmers; and

(b) the reasons for pendency, if any?

(e) if so, the reasons for allowing their export instead of using them in the country?

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). The Indo American Hybrid Seeds Company is mainly engaged in the production and distribution of horticultural seeds. The seeds produced by them are being exported to USA only. The total quantity and value of seeds exported by Indo-American Hybrid Seeds and its subsidiary firm, Indo American Exports during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 are given below:—

| | <i>Qty. (Kgs)</i> | <i>Value (Rs./Lakhs)</i> |
|---------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1987-88 | 8,156 | 27.56 |
| 1988-89 | 6,492 | 43.35 |
| 1989-90 | 17,718 | 100.48 |