

for the year 1995-96 and for the current period April-Dec. 1996 are as under:

(US \$ Million)

1995-96	\$ 31797
1995-96(April-Dec.)	\$ 22757
1996-97(April-Dec.)	24205

(c) Export Promotion measures are continuously being taken by the Government through changes in policies & procedures for providing an export friendly environment, involvement of States in export promotion and in consultation with Trade and Industry.

#### Move to Scrap Sugar Act

150. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appeared in the Indian Express dated January 10, 1997 under the caption "Move to scrap Sugar Act may deal a severe blow to exports"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Sugar Export Promotion (Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 was promulgated with a view to enable a larger number of parties to participate in the export of sugar.

#### Export of Leather Goods

151. SHRI P. SOUNDARAJAN:  
SHRI N.  
THALAVASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have liberalised loan facilities for the export of leather goods;

(b) whether it is a fact that for loan beyond six months over 15% interest is charged by Government; and

(c) whether Government have any scheme for providing financial assistance to the leather processing houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) Credit facilities are provided to the exporters of leather goods at par with other exporters under various schemes of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at pre-shipment and post-shipment stages both in rupee and foreign currency. The interest rates of post shipment rupee credit have been rationalised from 21.10.1996.

(b) As per Reserve Bank of India instructions, the current interest rates on post shipment rupee credit are as follows:

- (i) Upto 90 days—13%
- (ii) Beyond 90 days and upto 6 months— from the date of shipment 15%
- (iii) Beyond 6 months from the date of shipment—Free.

(Banks are free to determine the rate of interest)

(c) For setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants by Tanneries, Central and State Govts. provide 25% each of the total cost of plant. Loan is also provided by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) for setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants.

#### निर्यात संवर्धन संबंधी नीति

152. श्री इकबाल सिंह: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश के निर्यातकों में तीन अड़ि के लिए कोई व्यापक नीति तैयार की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ज्यौर क्या है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और