

crores and outstandings (credit) were Rs. 1183.00 crores.

Agreements Signed between India and USA

*736. SHRI VENKATRAM REDDY:
DR. SHRIKANT
RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the agreements which were signed between India and USA during the Prime Minister's recent visit to USA;

(h) what is in brief the nature of these agreements;

(c) in what manner these will be beneficial to India; and

(d) how far negotiations on extradition treaty between India and USA have progressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The two MOUs signed during PM's recent visit to the US are :

(i) MOU on Cooperative Measures to Increase Awareness and Support for Efforts to Combat Production, Distribution and Use of Illegal Drugs.

(ii) MOU on Planning, Conservation and Management of Natural and Cultural Heritage Sites.

(h) The MOU to combat illegal drugs envisages joint, cooperative, long-term programmes to raise awareness and build support for anti-narcotics activities to counter the production, distribution and consumption of illegal drugs.

The MOU on heritage sites envisages cooperation in environmental planning and design to enhance special environment and heritage sites of national and international significance through exchange of technical information, cooperative research, professional workshops, training etc.

(c) The MOU on illegal drugs would further Indo-US cooperation in the field of increasing awareness and support for efforts to combat narcotics trafficking. The adaptation modern techniques of mass communication and information exchanges would increase effectiveness of the measures undertaken by the two Governments. It would also encourage non-governmental and private sector organizations in their anti-drug activities.

The MOU on heritage sites would facilitate better planning, conservation and management of natural and cultural heritage sites on the basis of exchange of technical information, research, visitor services etc.

(d) Extradition arrangement between India and the US are governed at present by the Extradition Treaty concluded by the UK with the US on 22 December, 1931, acceded to on behalf of India on 9 March, 1942, and which continues to be in force since 1947. The first round of talks on a new Extradition Treaty between India and US were held from 28 September to 1 October, 1993 in New Delhi. A broad measure of agreement was reached on the text, with only a few issues remaining outstanding.

It is expected that a further round of negotiations will be held fairly soon with a view to resolving these remaining issues.

Recommendations of Swaminathan Committee

*737. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Committee headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, was appointed to review the progress of the Family Planning Programmes in the country;

(b) whether the Committee has