

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India issue blanket permits under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act to Export Houses;

(b) if so, whether such permits have any time limit and whether after the expiry of the limit these permits are renewed or time limit is extended;

(c) what are the names of persons and of Export Houses who have been issued blanket permits during the past four years;

(d) what are the details of permits which have expired; and

(e) what is the approximate total value of permits issued during the period referred to in part (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):
(a) to (e) The Reserve Bank of India issues blanket permits to Export Houses. On expiry of time limit blanket permits are renewed and the time limit is extended.

The blanket permits are issued by the Regional Offices of the Reserve Bank of India. The details about such permits are not compiled by the Central Office of the RBI. The permits issued per year are substantial in number. The efforts involved in collecting the information asked for in the question may not be commensurate with the results achieved.

New Import-Export Policy

317. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the volume of India's exports and imports during the last two years, yearwise and during the current financial year separately;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce a new Import-Export Policy with a view to increasing exports and reducing imports; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) India's Imports and Exports during the period 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90, (upto December, 1989) are as under:

Year	Value of Rs. crores	
	Imports	Exports
1987-88	22398.97	15741.23
1988-89	28193.65	20295.15
1989-90 (P) (up to Dec.89)	24773.30	19254.85

P: Provisional

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main objectives of the new Import and Export Policy, to be effective from the 1st April, 1990 are under:—

(i) to encourage rapid and sustained export growth with special emphasis on exports which generate high net foreign exchange earnings;

(ii) to discourage low priority imports and to reduce the unnecessary outgo of foreign exchange;

(iii) to simplify and streamline procedures and administration for exports and import licensing;

(iv) to ensure adequate and timely availability of industrial raw materials for sustaining the industrial growth; and

(v) to provide easy access to essential imported capital goods for modernisation, technological up-gradation and making the industry progressively competitive internationally.

Pending cases in the Supreme Court and High Courts

318. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases at present pending in the Supreme Court and various High Courts and for how long these are pending;

(b) what steps are being taken to clear these cases; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there are a number of vacancies of Judges in the various High Courts and that the Supreme Court has directed the Union Government to fill up these vacancies at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Various steps have been taken to reduce pendency of cases in courts, such as, grouping of matters regarding common question of law and constitution of special benches. The judge strength of Supreme Court has been raised from 18 to 26; and of High Courts from 351 to 462 in February, 1990. Recommendations of the Committee of three Chief Justices of High Courts, set up in 1984 to reduce arrears have been forwarded to the High Courts and the State Governments for appropriate action.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Statement

Cases Pending in Supreme Court and Various High Courts

Name of the Court	No. of cases pending as on 31-12-1989	No. of cases pending over 10 years
Supreme Court	203158	6480 (Regular Hearing Matters only)
<i>High Court</i>		
Allahabad	445039*	30868
Andhra Pradesh	72891	49
Bombay	156454	8649
Calcutta	189338**	17300**
Delhi	109495	7600