

times of natural calamities/accidents. They also render diving assistance for national development projects and to other civil authorities as and when required.

Assistance under US development assistance programme

688. SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 239 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd February, 1983 and state what is State-wise allocation under the US Development Assistance Programme out of amount of Rs. 3.9 crores earmarked for Integrated Rural Health and Population?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): For the Integrated Rural Health and Population Project, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) have extended total grant assistance of \$ 40 million. The assistance of \$ 4.05 million (Rs 3.9 crores) referred to in reply to Unstarred Question 239 in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd February, 1983 is part of this total assistance.

USAID funds under the above project are utilised for financing Government of India's Model Plan for basic health and family planning services in 14 selected districts of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. Allocations are made to these State Governments by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare from time to time and the amount released upto 15-4-1983 is as follows:

	(Rs. crores)
Maharashtra	3.66
Gujarat	3.96
Haryana	1.43
Punjab	2.69
Himachal Pradesh	6.67
	<hr/> 18.41 <hr/>

Fresh Export Markets of Coffee, Tea and Cashew

689. SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the S.T.C. has been exploring fresh export markets for the exports of coffee, tea, cashew-nuts etc.; and

(b) if so, to what extent success has been achieved in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The results achieved in this direction have been quite encouraging as would be seen from the following:

Tea: S.T.C. has been able to make a dent in the Algerian market for green tea by obtaining in 1981-82 first order of around 500 MT valued at Rs. 1.30 crores. During the year 1982-83, S.T.C. secured orders for 3000 MT valued at Rs. 6.90 crores black tea from Iran and 3000 MT valued at Rs. 7 crores green tea from U.S.S.R.

Coffee: During 1980-81, S.T.C. for the first time was able to obtain an order for 3300 MT of green coffee valued at Rs. 9.23 crores from Algeria and 1000 MT valued at Rs. 2.10 crores from Romania. Negotiations are presently afoot to finalise long term business relationship with Algeria for export of coffee and other agricultural products. However, during 1981-82 and 1982-83 because of stiff competition from other exporting countries, S.T.C. has not been able to capture any new market.

Basmati rice: During 1982-83 S.T.C. succeeded in exporting 4100 MT (Rs. 261.64 lakhs) of basmati rice to Saudi Arabia and 34 MT (Rs. 3.43 lakhs) to U.S.A.

Jute Goods: During 1981-82, S.T.C. was able to secure an order of

Rs. 17.41 lakhs for export of jute goods to Malwi and in 1982-83 orders for Rs. 286.22 lakhs worth of jute goods from Egypt and Rs. 86.00 lakhs from Ghana.

Cashew: Cashew Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) a subsidiary of S.T.C., has been effecting export of cashew kernels mostly to non-traditional markets of Hong Kong, Singapore, Tokyo and Sydney. During 1982-83, C.C.I. took initiative to identify bulk buyers in different markets and it could secure bulk orders totalling 45,300 cartons valued at Rs. 2.35 crores from a U. S. buyer.

Changes in long term banking policy

690. SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make some changes in the long term banking policy in view of the changing pattern of economy; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) The Government and Reserve Bank of India continually review the different aspects of banking policy in the context of emerging economic situation and take appropriate steps as and when considered necessary. Currently no change in the long term banking policy is contemplated.

Development of laser-guided missiles by India

691. SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is developing laser-guided missiles;

(b) if so, whether it is being developed entirely indigenously or with collaboration; and

(c) by when it is expected to be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Department of Defence Research is engaged in the development of laser guidance technology.

(b) The laser guidance technology is being developed without any foreign collaboration.

(c) It is not in public interest to disclose the details.

Interest/penalty on outstanding excise duty and customs duty

692. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of persons against whom one crore or more of excise duty or customs duty is due;

(b) the steps taken by Government to recover the same; and

(c) whether any interest is chargeable and penalty is leviable for default in payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b) The information is being collected as on 1-4-1983 and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) No, Sir.

Loss suffered by Cotton Corporation of India

693. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 226 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th March, 1983 and state what is the total loss suffered by Cotton Corporation of India during the year 1982-83?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): The Cotton Corporation of India has suffered a loss of about Rs. 24.73 crores from September 1982 to March, 1983. (Accounting year of the CCI is from September to August.)