

Governments and efforts are being made to better monitor and curb such financial flows.

Pendency of Extradition Cases

5035. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of extradition cases which are pending at present and how much expenditure Government have incurred on the engagement of advocates during the last two years; and

(b) whether Government propose to set up a separate panel of advocates for such court cases and if so, the details thereof and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) Nine extradition requests from various foreign countries are pending at present with the judicial authorities in India. Expenditure incurred on engagement of advocates was Rs. 25,300 in 2001-2002 and Rs. 1,60,900 in 2002-2003.

(b) An in principle decision has been taken to set up a separate panel of advocates. The matter is being pursued with the Ministry of Law and Justice and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Assistance to Iraq

5036. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to supply about two million tonnes of wheat to Baghdad under the World Food Programme and grant Rs. 100 crore to the UN's restarted 'Oil for Food' Programme for providing humanitarian relief to the war-ravaged people of Iraq;

(b) if so, whether Government are holding consultations with Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iran, Qatar and Turkey on this issue;

(c) if so, their response thereto; and

(d) to what extent wheat and aid has already been provided to Iraq?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) In response to the UN emergency appeal, India has announced a contribution of \$20 million in cash and kind, including 50,000 MT of wheat. The UN has also included 30 Indian pipeline contracts under its list of 327 priority contracts under the Oil for Food Programme.