

(a) whether Malaysia proposes to buy iron ore from India ;

(b) if so, the total tonnes of iron ore proposed to be imported by Malaysia from India annually ;

(c) whether the import of iron ore to Malaysia will be stated in 1985-86 financial year ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Malaysia has been importing about 30,000 tonnes of iron from India.

(c) and (d) During the last few months, two more steel plants have been constructed in Malaysia. Possibilities of supply of iron ore from India for these steel plants are being explored.

Performance by MMTC

7210. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of MMTC during 1984-85 ;

(b) if so, areas where the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation fared well in the above year ;

(c) whether MMTC has adopted strategy of diversifying into the areas of production in India and abroad ; and

(d) if so, the programme proposed to be launched in this regard in 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1984-85 the corporation achieved a turnover of Rs. 2763 crores,

nearly 50% higher than the budgeted turnover of Rs. 1834 crores. Exports reached highest cost turnover of Rs. 372 crores representing 36% increase over the previous year's exports of Rs. 274 crores. The corporation non-canalised trade turnover reached a highest ever figure of Rs. 42 crores during the year. The Corporation also concluded a 10 million tonnes Iron Ore contract with Japan.

(c) and (d). MMTC has been adopting a policy of developing reliable longterm sources of supplies for the critical imports, for promoting exports and for imports substitution. Emerald processing unit at Jaipur has been set up by M.M.T.C. Similar possibilities are being constantly explored.

Proposal to Start Harijan Development Bank in Kerala

7211. SHRI P.A. ANTONY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to start a Harijana Development Bank in Kerala or elsewhere ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Amalgamation of Private Sector Banks

7212. SHRI P. A. ANTONY : SHRI DEBI GHOSAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has any proposal to placed under moratorium in April with the nationalised banks ; and