

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 3 proposals relating to alignment plans of NH - 17 in Kerala for the stretches km. 18/05 to 19/00, km. 342/947 to 368/400 and km. 214/00 to 225/00 have been received from the State Government.

(b) As the phased programme for development of NH-17 called for from the State Government is still awaited, it is too early to indicate the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared.

Agreements on Border Trade

*360. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some agreements on border trade have been signed with some foreign countries during 1992 and till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;

(c) whether some products of Sikkim are also proposed to be considered for exports in these trade agreements;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e). At present India has border trade agreement with People's Republic of China. A Memorandum on resumption of border trade was signed with the Government of People's Republic of China on 13.12.1991. This Memorandum provides that the border trade would be confined initially to Gunji in the Pithoragarh District of U.P. in India and Pulan in the Tibet Autonomous Region of

People's Republic of China across the Lipulekh pass. The Memorandum also provides for extension of border trade to other points on India China border after mutual consultations. In the 4th session of India-China Joint Group meeting on Economic Relations and Trade, Science and Technology held in Beijing on 4-5 January, 1993 both sides agreed, in principle for extension of border trade to other points on the Indian China border. Details in this regard are under consideration.

Anti-Dumping Action Against Importers of PVC Resin etc.

*3466. SHRI S.B. THORAT: SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some companies particularly multinational companies are importing in large quantity materials like PVC resin etc. under OGL Scheme during 1992-93 which causes dumping of materials in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding dumping of PVC resins and other similar materials in the country by some vested interested companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof, item-wise and company-wise;

(e) the action taken by the Government to curb such practices in future or to impose anti-dumping duty in such cases; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f). The Indian Customs Tariff Act, 1975 was amended in October 1982 to enable the Government to take measures against dumped imports by levying anti-dumping duties. The act empowers Government to impose anti-dumping duties in those cases in which dumped imports are found to be causing material injury to the domestic industry. Before such a duty can be imposed the authority designated by the Government has to make a finding on the existence of dumping and injury. The designated Authority normally initiates an investigation only upon receipt of a written request by or on behalf of the affected domestic industry. The Customs Tariff rules require the Designated Authority to satisfy itself that it has sufficient prima-facie evidence of dumping, injury to domestic industry and a causal link between the dumped imports and the alleged injury before it decides to initiate an investigation.

Complaints have been received of dumping of PVC Resin; Styrene Butadiene Rubber, Bisphenol-A; Acrylates; acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber; Glass Fibre; Refined Terephthalic Acid (PTA); Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG); and Polystyrene.

Three anti-dumping investigations were initiated by the Designated Authority on the basis of the complaints received from domestic industry. Based on the preliminary findings of the Designated Authority, Government has imposed anti-dumping duties until 1st June, 1993, on PVC Resin falling under H.S. Nos. 39041000, 39042102 and 39042109 originating from all sources in Argentina, Brazil, Republic of Korea, Mexico and the U.S.A. The Designated Authority has terminated investigation into the allegation of dumping of Styrene Butadiene Rubber as no injury or threat of

injury to the domestic industry was found. Investigation into the allegation of dumping of Bisphenol-A is in progress. The Designated Authority is to take a decision on initiation of anti-dumping investigations in respect of the remaining complaints.

[Translation]

Traveling Facilities to Students

3467. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide free/at concessional rate travelling facility to the students of Uttar Pradesh in buses of Uttar Pradesh Road Transport Corporation to facilitate their movement for the purpose of education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Export of Chemicals

3468. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to further amend the negative list of the export and import to control the export of chemicals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the chemicals to be