

Trade with U. K.

2486. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the United Kingdom has decided to extend financial assistance o promote trade in the country ;

(b) if so, the schemes under which and the year upto which the financial assistance is likely to be extended by U.K. ; and

(c) the details of areas identified for the promotion of trade between India and UK under those schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c). United Kingdom has decided to extend financial assistance to promote and Export Development Programme in India upto 1995-96. The areas presently identified under this programme are :-

- (a) Processed Foods.
- (b) Gem-studded Gold Jewellery,
- (c) Computer software,
- (d) Automotive components .

Export of Tea

2487. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have advised the tea manufacturers in the country to introduce foreign brand names to boost tea exports ;

(b) whether the indian names in tea is also catching up the world market ; and

(c) if so, the reasons for suggesting introduction of foreign brand names ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c). While no specific advice regarding use of foreign brand names has been given, the

possible use of foreign brand names is one of the elements of a strategy for boosting value added tea exports . Certain Indian brand names have become popular in some markets, however, strategies will vary from market to market . It is for private exporters to decide whether foreign brand names would help them in boosting their value added exports in some of the markets where brand loyalties are already strongly established .

Import of Silk

2488. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum and value of silk imported (yarn and garments) during the last three years ;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation requesting for minimising the import of silk ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) while there were no imports of silk garments, the quantity and value of raw silk (including silk yarn) imported during the last three years were as under :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (in tonnes)</i>	<i>Value (Rs: crores)</i>
1990-91	1777.80	102.29
1991-92	2399.41	156.74
1992-93	3173.88	242.07

(b) Yes, Sir -

(c) In order to restrict the import of raw silk, the Government have revised input-output norms for import of raw silk under the Advance Licensing Scheme and the facility of Value Based Advance Licensing has been withdrawn in the case of silk textile products.