

[English]

**Indo-Malaysian talks**

603. CH. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Malaysian trade talks were held in January, 1987; and

(b) if so, the nature of talks held and the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No Indo-Malaysian Trade Talks were held in January, 1987. However, some trade issues came up for discussion during the visit of Malaysian Prime Minister to India on 29th-30th January, 1987.

(b) The thrust of the discussion was on the development of bilateral trade and rectification of the existing trade imbalance.

**Disease named "Turka" affecting mulberry.**

604. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the disease called 'Turka' is affecting mulberry;

(b) whether this disease has reduced quality and quantity of the mulberry leaves rendering them unfit for silkworm rearing;

(c) the total loss of crop due to this disease; and

(d) the steps taken to combat the disease ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) This disease does affect the quality and reduce the quantity of mulberry leaf production. However, the total loss of crop due to this disease is negligible as sericulturists are aware of the cause and take preventive measures such as application of insecticides, like Metastox 0.05%, Demicron 0.05%, Ferodon 7 Kg/hectare and Aldrex 0.05%. The Central Silk Board's Research Institute at Berhampore and its attached Sericultural Research Stations have taken up research projects for effective control of this disease in different climatic conditions and on different varieties of mulberry plants.

**Agreement with Iraq and Libya about payments due to Indian companies**

605. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed with Iraq and Libya about payments due to Indian Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the modalities and implications of these agreements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The Government of India have entered into the four deferred payment agreements with the Govt of Iraq for settlement of the amounts due to Indian companies. No such agreement has been entered into with Libya.

(b) and (c) These agreements provide, *inter-alia*, for supply of crude oil and sulphure. It is not in the public interest to disclose the details of the agreements.

**Sanction of Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension to freedom fighters from Andhra Pradesh**

606. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of freedom fighters from Andhra Pradesh who have been sanctioned Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension upto April, 1980 as also number of those who have been sanctioned this pension upto December, 1985; and

(b) the number of applications found fake during scrutiny and the action taken against such persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a)

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|-------------------------------------|-------|
| (i) Sanctioned upto April, 1980     | —5322 |
| (ii) Sanctioned upto December, 1986 | —7955 |

(b) Upto December, 1986, 16,347 applications were rejected as the applicants were not found eligible under the provisions of the Scheme. No other action is taken except rejecting such applications.

**Master Plan for development of tourism in Andhra Pradesh.**

607. SHRI V. SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Master Plan of development of Tourism has been formulated for Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) There is no Master Plan as such.

(b) Does not arise.

**Impact of alternative packing materials on jute industry.**

608. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that jute industry

had been adversely affected due to the development of alternative packaging materials; and

(b) the number of jute industries closed down and the number of workers affected as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Jute industry is facing stiff competition from development of alternative packaging materials.

(b) Because of various reasons including labour trouble and financial difficulties, nine jute mills involving 42100 workes are lying closed at present.

**Mulberry silk cultivation in Karnataka**

609. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India is taking steps to promote the mulberry silk cultivation in the Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Sericulture Department and to provide R&D support for the development of mulberry cultivation in Karnataka, Central Silk Board has established the following units in the State :

- (i) Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute with 10 Research Extension Centres;
- (ii) 2 Regional Research Stations;
- (iii) 10 Silkworm Seed Production Centres; and
- (iv) 4 Basic Seed Cocoon Farms.