

Nicobar Islands; if so, what are the details and what action Government contemplate to take to implement the proposal;

(b) whether comprehension reports were prepared by the Ministry in this connection; if so, what are the salient recommendations; and

(c) whether Government are aware of about the public demand in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands about establishment of a free port at Campbell Bay for the economic development of the Territory; if so, what is the reaction of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Government have at present no proposal under consideration for setting up a free port at Campbell Bay.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

**Expansion of Trade between India and U.S.S.R.**

6379. SHRI NATVERLAL B. PARMAR:  
SHRI BAGUN SUMBRUI:  
SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held recently with U.S.S.R. for expansion of trade between the two countries;

(b) the items identified for expansion; and

(c) whether any trade protocol was signed in this connection; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION

(SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) to (c). Following talks that were held recently between India and the USSR a long term Programme of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the two countries has been adopted.

The Programme notes with satisfaction that the volume of mutual trade during the period 1976-80 will increase by 1.5 to 2 times. The Programme also envisages a rate of growth of mutual trade in 1981-85 not less than that envisaged for 1976-80. Both sides would also make efforts to maintain and increase the achieved trade development rates over a period till 1990.

The Programme envisages expansion of the volume of deliveries of machinery and equipment from the USSR to India particularly for the technology intensive sectors, taking into account the development of the Indian economy. Export of the materials and manufactured goods such as crude oil and petroleum products, fertilizers, metals, newsprint, sulphur and other commodities of importance for the Indian economy are also envisaged.

The Programme envisages exports from India to the USSR of traditional products and also industrial and agricultural goods including labour-intensive goods recognising that a strong basis exists for the expansion of exports of certain types of commodities, finished and semi-finished products including mass consumer goods and metal products.

Concrete range of products to be exchanged between the two countries and their volumes will be determined in the course of negotiations of a New Trade Agreement.

A Trade Protocol has also been signed for the year 1979 representing a substantial increase in the trade.

turn-over between the two countries compared to 1978.

#### Export of Oil Cakes

6980. SHRI NATWARLAL B. PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of oil cakes exported during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the export of oil cakes is effecting adversely the health and productivity of the cattle population in the country; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) The quantity of oilcakes exported during 1973-78 had been as follows:

	(Qty. Lakh Tonnes)
1973-74 . . . . .	13.11
1974-75 . . . . .	9.53
1975-76 . . . . .	11.76
1976-77 . . . . .	21.28
1977-78 . . . . .	11.61

(b) and (c). Export of oilcakes like that of groundnuts and linseed is regulated in such a way as not to adversely affect the health and productivity of cattle population of the country.

#### Market conditions for Jute Goods Exports to Asia and Africa

6981. SHRI NATWARLAL B. PARMAR: Will the Minister of COM-

MERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade had made a study of market conditions for export of jute goods in countries of Asia and Africa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take for promotion of jute exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade had undertaken a comprehensive market survey in selected countries of Asia and Africa with a view to analysing the trends in consumption of jute manufactures and making a realistic assessment of export prospects to jute manufactures from India.

(c) follow-up action on the report submitted by the Institute has been initiated. The other important measures taken by the Government to promote jute exports are as follows:—

(i) steps have been taken to make Indian jute goods competitive in the world markets through appropriate cash assistance scheme;

(ii) research is being encouraged with a view to improving existing product line in terms of quality, and cost saving through improvements in processing etc. and also to develop new uses of jute products;

(iii) research is encouraged to study the pattern of demand in markets abroad;

(iv) trade-cum-study delegations are sponsored to cover major existing and potential markets.

(v) bilateral and multilateral discussions are held from time to time with a view to promoting exports of Indian jute manufactures.