

**Alleged scandal regarding disposal of Polythelene Powder held by private Cable Company**

3554. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen a press report in "Economic Times" dated the 20th August, 1972 that a Multi-Million rupee scandal regarding disposal of 2200 tonnes of polythelene powder held by a private cable Company was being investigated by the C.B.I.; and

(d) whether the Union Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs have over-ruled the C.B.I. objections and allowed the firm to sell the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir. From the quantity mentioned in the *Economic Times* report dated the 20th August, 1972, it seems that the article refers to M/s. Oriental Power Cables Co. Action is being taken to divert the excess quantity of about 2000 tonnes of low density polythelene moulding powder imported by the company to other Actual Users in exercise of the powers conferred under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 and Orders issued thereunder. Diversion will be ordered purely on no-profit basis. C.B.I. had not given any opinion about the disposal of the goods.

In regard to another firm viz. M/s. Asian Cables, the C.B.I. had enquired into the matter, 350 tonnes out of 960 tonnes of imported Low Density Polythelene Moulding Powder was available with them. C.B.I. had not expressed any opinion in regard to the disposal of the same. The goods have been diverted to other actual users on no profit basis.

(b) No, Sir.

**Agreement on basis of Technical Credits with foreign countries**

3555. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) the new trade agreements which have been reached on the basis of technical credits with some foreign countries and the Government of India;

(b) the commodities covered by these new agreements and the total value thereof to be exported from India and to be imported from those countries during the period 1st June, 1972 to 31st March, 1973; and

(c) the other salient features of the agreements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). It is not in the public interest to furnish this information.

**Export Target during 1972-73**

3556. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aiming to raise the export target during 1972-73; if so, by how much;

(b) what has been the average rate of growth in the past three years; and

(c) whether there was poor performance last year in the export target and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) For the current financial year 1972-73, the Ministry has retained the target of Rs. 1760 crores (as given in Fourth

Plan Mid-term Appraisal). This would imply a growth rate of 9.5 per cent over 1971-72.

(b) The average rate of growth of our exports during the first three years of the Fourth Plan works out roughly at a compound rate of 5.8 per cent per annum.

(c) The growth rate in respect of our exports during 1971-72 was 4.6 per cent. Factors having an adverse effect on our exports included mainly: (i) continuing shortages of domestic supply of certain basic raw materials (steel, non-ferrous metals, cotton etc.) needed by export production, (ii) Transport bottlenecks and dislocation in shipments due to Indo-Pak hostilities, (iii) the international monetary crisis which added to the uncertainties of foreign trade, (iv) recession in world steel industry which affected export of iron ore, ferro-manganese etc., (v) restrictive trade policies pursued by certain developed countries, and (vi) inadequate shipping space and increasing freight rates.

**Managerial and Directors Posts lying vacant in S.T.C.**

3557. SHRI SHYAMANANDAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Managerial and Directors' posts lying vacant in State Trading Corporation during the last three years; and

(b) the duration of vacancy in each case?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). There were no vacancies in Managerial posts in the S.T.C. during the last three years. As regards the posts

of whole time Directors in the Corporation, no vacancies occurred in 1969-70 and 1970-71. A post of Director, however, fell vacant on the 1st September 1971 and it was filled on the 6th May, 1972.

**निर्यात लक्ष्य प्राप्त करने में असफलता**

\* 3558. श्री के० एम० मधुकर क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या भारत गत दो वर्षों में निर्यात लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में असफल रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो गत दो वर्षों में निर्यात में वृद्धि करने के लिये क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किये गये हैं और इस सम्बन्ध में कितनी सफलता मिली है , और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में असफलता के क्या कारण हैं ?

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) : (क) तथा (ख). भारत के निर्यात पुनर्निर्यात सहित, 1970-71 में 8.6 प्रतिशत तथा 1971-72 में 4.6 प्रतिशत बढ़े। इस प्रकार पिछले दो वर्षों के लिये हमारी निर्यातों की वृद्धि दर चतुर्थ योजना के 7 प्रतिशत वार्षिक वृद्धि दर के लक्ष्य के मुकाबले में औसतन 6.6 प्रतिशत वार्षिक आती है।