

expansion of economic co-operation and promotion of trade exchange between the two countries.

#### *Indo-Iran Trade Agreement*

- (i) Exploring possibilities of expanding and promoting trade between the two countries.
- (ii) Extending facilities for imports and exports between the two countries.
- (iii) According facilities for holding trade fairs and exhibitions.

#### *Visit by North Korean Trade Delegation*

3286 SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether a Trade delegation from Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea visited India in February, 1974, and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a). Yes Sir,

(b) As a result of negotiations held with the Delegation of Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea a Trade and Payments Agreement was signed on 18th February, 1974, which shall remain valid for a period of three years

Simultaneously, Indo-Democratic People's Republic of Korea Trade Protocol for 1974 was also signed. It envisages a trade turnover of Rs 260 million between the two countries during 1974. India will import steel, zinc, lead, urea, magnesia, clinker, etc. and export textiles, tyres and tubes, jute goods, rubber, leather, etc. to Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 1974.

**Pact between India and Belgium to Avoid Double Taxation**

3287. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Belgium have signed a pact to avoid double taxation of income, and

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Agreement was signed at Brussels on 7th February 1974. However, before it comes into force, it has to go through the formality of exchange of letters certifying that the proper procedure was followed in accordance with the laws of each Contracting State. A copy of the Agreement will be laid on the table of the House as soon as it comes into effect.

#### *Upgradation of Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada*

3288 SHRI M KATHAMUTHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the population figures of Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada according to the 1973 mid-year estimate,

(b) whether representations have been received requesting upgrading of these towns from 'C' class to 'B-2', and

(c) if so, what action is being taken in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) According to 1971 Census Report, the population of the Municipalities of Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada was 352,504 and