

Widening Trade Deficit with EEC

*341. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the widening trade deficit with the European Economic Community is a cause for serious concern;

(b) whether the matter was discussed with the member States at the 4th Session of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission which met at Brussels from 6-8 January, 1987; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the decision arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) and (b). At the meeting of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission held in Brussels in January, 1987, the Government conveyed its concern about India's growing trade deficit vis-a-vis the European Economic Community and called upon the EEC to take appropriate measures to help reduce this trade gap by facilitating increased imports from India.

(c) Besides emphasising the continuity of trade promotion measures already undertaken for increasing Indian exports to the Community, the EEC recognised the importance to help reduce the trade gap through additional steps aimed at export production and greater flexibility in the various administrative procedures and regulations affecting India's trade vis-a-vis the European Community.

Master Plan for Tourism in Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat

*342. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a master plan for tourism has been formulated for Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) and (b).

Master Plans for Tourism have not been formulated for States as a whole. The Union Ministry of Tourism has, however, prepared a Master Plan of Mewar Complex and the Master Plan of Chittorgarh in Rajasthan is under preparation.

Counter Trade deals by private sector.

*343. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow private sector trading houses to enter into counter trade deals ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) and (b). Private sector trading houses are free to enter into counter trade deals provided imports and exports thereunder are within the provisions of the prevalent Import and Export Policy.

[Translation]**Export of Iron Ore**

*344. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to increase export target of iron ore for the year 1987-88 ;

(b) whether the export target was achieved in 1985-86 and 1986-87 ; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (c). It is proposed to increase the export of iron ore (including concentrates and pellets) in 1987-88. Exports during