

(b) whether it is also a fact these delegations have succeeded in dislodging the Indian Trade in some Islamic countries;

(c) if so, the countries where Indian trade has suffered, and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh) (a) Yes, Sir Delegations from Pakistan have visited some countries and their aim has been to negotiate for the expansion of their trade on the basis of price competitiveness and quality

(b) to (d) A statement showing India's trade with some of the Islamic countries is placed on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT-690/67] It will be seen from it that there have been only marginal increases/decreases in our exports to those countries. Our trade with UAR is regulated by Trade Agreements between the two countries. Government are aware of the need to make greater effort to promote trade with foreign countries and this is being kept in mind

Price Policy for Cotton

*567. Shri M. Amersey:
Shri S. R. Damani:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state

(a) the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission in respect of raw cotton;

(b) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether the Commission has made any recommendations in respect of the price policy for cotton to be adopted for the next cotton season?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) to (c). The Agricultural Prices Commission has submitted its recommendations in respect of the price policy for cotton for the season 1987/1988 which are under

consideration of the Government. The decisions of the Government on these recommendations will be announced shortly

Quality of Indian Exports

*568. Shri Indrajit Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a rising or falling trend in complaints by foreign customers about quality of Indian exports,

(b) whether Government are fully satisfied with the existing arrangements for export quality control; and

(c) why no use is made of the National Test House, Calcutta, for this purpose?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Since the introduction on 1-1-1964 of Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963, there has been a perceptible fall in complaints about the quality of Indian exports

(b) The arrangements for export quality control appear to be fairly satisfactory. However, they are under constant review

(c) National Test House, Calcutta, was approached but it could not undertake pre-shipment inspection at the rates prescribed by the Government for most of the commodities notified under Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. Policy of the Government has been to prescribe inspection rates not higher than 0.2 per cent of the F.O.B. value of goods so that it does not become a burden on the export prices

Water pollution by Rourkela Steel Plant

*569. Shri D. Amat: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the polluted water of Rourkela Steel Plant is directly flowing into the river Brahmani by the side of the Steel Plant; and

(b) the steps being taken to prevent the flow of poisonous water into the river?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Polluted water containing objectionable constituents expelled from the Rourkela Steel Plant is treated in the waste treatment plant by biological treatment process and is discharged into the river only after removal of injurious constituents.

Coffee Board and Tea Board Establishments in Parliament House

*570. Shri S. K. Tapuria: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of tea, coffee, sandwiches and other items served to the members of Parliament through Coffee Board and Tea Board Establishments in the Parliament House have been increased; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the canteens run by the Tea and Coffee Boards in Delhi including those in the Parliament House, as also in other places in India, were running at a loss, it was decided in February last that as a measure of economy, an endeavour should be made to make these establishments self-supporting. That is why, there has been a small increase in the prices of coffee, tea and snacks served by these canteens.

सायली का मूल्य

2653. श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मत्त ८: महीनों में इलायची के मूल्यों में अनाधारण वृद्धि हुई है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो किसनी और इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री विमल सिंह) : (क) और (ख). इलायची के मूल्यों में कोई असाधारण वृद्धि नहीं हुई है परन्तु लगभग 45 रुपये से 50 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम पर मूल्य स्थिर हो गये हैं जिसका कारण अक्षत: अक्षमूल्यन है और अक्षत: विदेशी माग का कायम रहना है।

Industrial Estates in Harayana

2654. Shri Ram Kishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme to set up new industrial estates in Harayana during the Fourth Five Year Plan has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Collaboration

2655. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign collaboration agreements for Government and the private sector projects approved by Government during 1966-67 with country-wise break-up; and

(b) the total amount of foreign capital involved in these agreements?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-691/67].

Railway Workers at Jhajha and Jamalpur Workshops

2656. Shri Deven Sen:
Shri Madhan Limaye:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Administration have received complaints