

Production of Bidis and Cigarettes

2694. **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total production of bidis and cigarettes in 1955 and 1961 respectively?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): The production of cigarettes and bidis was as follows:—

Year	Production Millions
Cigarette.	1955 22813 "
	1961 39470 "
Bidis	1955-56 *217000 "
	1961-62 *224000 "

*These are only estimated. Precise statistics of bidi production are not available, as they are produced in a very large number of cottage scale units.

Trade with Somalia

2695. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Somalia's Minister for Agriculture during his recent visit to New Delhi discussed various measures for securing Indian aid for development of his country in the various fields of economy and establishing good trade relations; and

(b) if so, what measures were discussed with him and what decision were taken?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The discussions were of a general nature relating to the development of mutually beneficial trade between the two countries and allied matters. No concrete proposals were made or decisions taken.

Tour Programme of Minister

2696. { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

Will the Minister of Economic and Defence Coordination be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has finalised his tour programme abroad; and

(b) whether he has received any report from teams which have already preceded him?

The Minister of Economic and Defence Coordination (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The Hon. Members presumably refer to the visit to the U.S.A. and U.K. The programme is not finalised yet.

(b) The official team will report on its return early next week.

Manufacture of Explosives

2697. **Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of parties which have offered themselves for the manufacture of explosives with foreign collaboration; and

(b) what sort of explosives are to be manufactured?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Thirteen parties have applied for licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act 1951 either for establishing new industrial undertakings or for effecting substantial expansion of their undertaking for the manufacture of blasting/industrial explosives.

(b) The various kinds of explosives are Gun powder, Nitro Compounds like dynamites, galatines, plastex, etc., Slurry blasting agents, prilled ammonium nitrate/fuel oil mixture and liquid oxygen explosives.