

(1983-84) included crude oil and petroleum products, gems and jewellery, readymade garments, tea, machinery and transport equipment, iron ore, leather and leather manufactures, marine products, vegetables and fruits (including cashew kernals), chemicals and allied products, cotton fabrics, metals manufactures (excluding iron and steel), handmade carpets; coffee, jute manufactures, tobacco un-manufactured, raw cotton and oil cakes.

With regards to directional pattern India's main markets of exports during 1983-84 included USA, USSR, Japan, UK, Federal Republic of Germany, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong, Belgium, Singapore, Netherlands and Italy.

The commodity-wise and country-wise statistics of exports for 1982-83, 1983-84 and for the first half of 1984-85 are contained in the Annual Report, 1984-85, of the Ministry of Commerce and Supply. The commodity-wise details subsequent to April-September, 1984 are not yet available. Out exports are made to General Currency Area as well as to the Rupee payment area.

Import of Steel Pallets from India to Mexico

4587. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement have been made with Mexico to import steel pallets from India;

(b) if so, full details of the agreement; and

(c) the time by which Mexico will receive the steel pallets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). No Agreement as such, has been made with Mexico to export iron ore pellets from India.

A Mexican industrial delegation which was on a visit to India in the third week of March, 1985, had discussions with officers of Department of Steel on 18-19th March, 1985

when the question of export of iron ore pellets to Mexico also came up for discussion. The Mexicans indicated their interest in the import of about 0.5 MT pellets from Kudremukh. They were apprised of the quality parametres of the pellets to be manufactured at the Mangalore Pellet Plant and also informed that Kudremukh will be able to supply pellets from Mangalore Pellet Plant by October-November 85. The finalisation of contract would depend upon the test results that will be undertaken by the Mexicans after the Plant goes into production.

Tusser Silk Cultivation in Orissa

4588. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts in Orissa where tusser silk cultivation is under operation; and

(b) whether Government have any proposal to extend this tusser silk cultivation to some other districts of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The main districts practising tasar culture in Orissa are Mayurbanj, Sundergarh, Keonjhar and Sambalpur. Small pockets of tasar growing areas are also found in Cuttack, Bafasore and Denkanal districts.

(b) There are programmes to extend tasar culture to all potential areas of the State.

[Translation]

Directorate for Disposal of Goods Lying in Customs Godowns

4589. SHRIMATI CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether Government propose to set up a Directorate for the timely and speedy disposal of goods lying in various godowns of the Customs Departments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : No, Sir.