Zanzibar Clove Merchants

Shri Indrajit Gupta: •361 { Shri Daji: ∣ Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have recently been made to him on behalf of Zanzibar Clove Merchants for relaxation of Indian import tariffs;

(b) whether the Prime Minister, during his recent visit to London, promised to consider the request favourably; and

(c) action taken by Government in this respect?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) There have been representations about reduction in import duty.

(b) It was stated that a delegation that might visit India in connection with exports of Zanzibar cloves would be treated with sympathy.

(c) Discussions held recently with the Zanzibar delegation have led to certain proposals being made for increased trade with Zanzibar. These are still under consideration of the Zanzibar Government.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that the present rate of import tariff on Zanzibar clove is as high as 92½ per cent?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is quite reasonable, looking to the category to which cloves belong. The House will appreciate that it is not a very essential item.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I want to know whether there is any truth in the allegation which is being made inthe press that because India is the second biggest customer in the world for Zanzibar cloves, she is taking advantage of this to impose an unusually high import tariff. Shri Manubhai Shah: The duty is paid by our consumers and not by them.

Export Sector

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	Shri	Sham Lal Saraf: Rameshwar Tantia:
*363. ∤	Shri	Rameshwar Tantia:
	Shri	Basumatari:
i	Shri	Bishanchander Seth:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to evolve a separate sector for exports is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the progress made in this regard?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The broad features of this proposal are—

- regular planning of capacities for export within the existing industrial units and the purposeful expansion of such capacity for export;
- (ii) creating new units primarily meant for export.

This comprises the new proposal for the export sector.

The proposal was considered by the Board of Trade on 28th September, 1962 and it was decided to set up a Committee to prepare the whole scheme.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Who are the members of the committee which will prepare the scheme for export and will it include some experts on international trade?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, Sir. The Committee would consist of Dr. Gadgil, Dr. Lokanathan, Shri Sachin Chaudhuri, Shri Pitamber Pant, two Senior Industrial Advisers of the Government of India and four industrialists.