

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Saturday, February 29, 1964/Phalguna
10, 1885 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

E.C.M.

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- *352. { Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state the progress, if any, made so far in obtaining favourable treatment for the entry of Indian goods into the European Common Market and the items in respect of which such treatment has been secured?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): The EEC have agreed to grant unilaterally with effect from 1st January, 1964 and initially for a period of 2 years tariff concessions on some of the items included in the Aide Memoire which was presented by India to the EEC in April 1963. Tariffs are totally suspended on cardamoms (crushed and uncrushed), Coriander (crushed and uncrushed), ginger (including preserved and conserved in sugar), shellac bleached, mango chutney, curry paste and powder, tobacco seed oil and articles for cricket and polo. Further, there has been a reduction in tariffs on cashew kernels (from 5 per cent to 2.5 per cent), chillies (from 20 per cent to 10 per cent), chilli powder

(from 25 per cent to 12 per cent) and castor oil (from 8 per cent to 7 per cent). In addition, the EEC agreed to suspend duties on tea and hardwood from 1st January, 1964.

Further exploratory talks on other items of interest to India are continuing with the Commission of the EEC and it is hoped that numerous pending issues will be examined and finalised in favour of the less developed countries expeditiously in due course.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether, after the concessions have been allowed by the ECM countries, our export trade has in any way shown a better trend; if so, what is the increase in comparison with the size of the trade before the formation of ECM?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is only from 1st January, 1964.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether it is also a fact that these countries have made it a pre-condition that countries will be given the concessions only on the basis of affinity and political ideology?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, Sir. It is clear that the agreement will have to be commodity-wise and destination-wise.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि वेस्ट जर्मनी और फ्रांस में हमारी किन कम्पोजिटीज के रेट गिरे हैं ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : वही तो मैंने बताया ।

Shri Basappa: May I know to what extent trade deficit is there because of these restrictive duties, and to what extent we have been benefited?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It will be difficult to parcel out the disadvantages and disabilities, but it is true that if these duties and the non-tariff barriers are removed, the trade gap can be much narrowed down.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the total export of these items at present, and what is the hon. Minister's anticipation of it because of the concessions?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The present exports of these items are about Rs. 19 crores. It is difficult to give an estimate of what will be the anticipation.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: What is the extent or dimension of the annual deficit in the trade balance with the ECM countries, and has it shown any sign of being reduced during the last one or two years when the Government and the hon. Minister have been trying to improve the position?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, but the gap is so wide that I cannot express any satisfaction at what is happening. We have narrowed it down by Rs. 25 crores, but the gap is of Rs. 150 crores.

श्री विभूति निधु : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ई० सी० एम० कंट्रीज़ में जूट गुड्स की क्या पोजीशन है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : उस पर भी बड़े प्रतिबन्ध लगाए गए हैं । हम चाहते हैं कि उन प्रतिबन्धों को हटाया जाए ।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know what attempts will be made to introduce our textiles like handloom cloth, silks and all varieties of artificial silks, into these ECM countries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It falls into two divisions. As far as manufactured articles, where machines are used, are concerned, they are under

restraint, but handloom cloth and hand products have got a much freer access, and that is why handloom exports are looking up.

Public Sector Undertakings

***353. Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether a statement giving the changes or modifications made in the organisational set up and management apparatus of some of the public sector undertakings as envisaged in the statement regarding Management of Public Sector Enterprises made in Lok Sabha on the 20th September, 1963, will be laid on the Table; and

(b) whether the suggestions contained in the statement of 20th September, 1963 are going to be extended to other fields?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). Attention is invited to reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 428 dated 6th December 1963. The organisational set up and management apparatus of the undertakings under this Ministry is constantly under review and such changes as are considered necessary are being introduced.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: In the statement previously made by the hon. Minister it was indicated that this kind of integrated management practice would be applicable to Durgapur and Sindri as well. May I know whether this has been done?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): In Durgapur it has been done. Sindri is in charge of another Ministry and so a separate question might be put.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the integrated management practices applied to Hindustan Steel be applied to Bhopal Heavy Electricals?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Yes, Sir; that is under consideration.