

are used in wear and lubrication tests, for detecting leaks in complicated systems and storage facilities, for detecting defects in steel and other metal Castings or structures, for tracing the flow in pipelines, streams, chemical processing plants, fluid systems, etc. They also assist in developing higher quality and greater safety specifications for many products.

(b) India has not entered into a specific project of collaboration with any foreign country involving the development of the applications of atomic energy to agriculture, industry and medicine. No such specific agreements are necessary since all results are freely published. India has collaborative agreements with Canada, France, Hungary, Sweden, U.K., U.S.A., and U.S.S.R. In addition it collaborates with many other friendly countries with whom no formal agreement exists.

Tea Processing Machineries

*153. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

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

(a) whether Government is still importing tea processing machineries;

(b) if so, from which countries;

(c) the value of such machinery imported annually; and

(d) what steps are being taken to stop import immediately?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Only tea processing machinery of specialised design and performance not manufactured indigenously is allowed to be imported.

(b) The United Kingdom, West Germany and to some extent from Japan.

(c)

	Rs.
1959-60	14.36 lakhs
1960-61	3.12 lakhs
1961-62	
(upto Dec. 1961) 2.25 lakhs	

(d) Import of tea machinery of the kind manufactured in India has already been stopped.

Organisation of Asian Economic Cooperation

*154. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

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

(a) whether the ECAFE Secretary U. Nyun suggested the setting up of an organisation for Asian Economic Cooperation (OAEC);

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India in the matter; and

(c) whether he also suggested the pooling of technical personnel and resources by the ECAFE countries for their economic development?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (c). The suggestions referred to in (a) and (c) were originally made by a Consultative Group of Experts appointed by the Executive Secretary of the ECAFE to investigate practical methods and forms of promoting regional trade cooperation. They were supported by the Executive Secretary.

(b) The concept underlying these suggestions is acceptable to Government in principle. Government are, however, of the view that any such scheme to be successful needs a wide measure of support from the Governments concerned and that the details should be considered at a meeting of Government representatives.