

they should try for the present to intensify intra-regional trade and watch the experience because Asian countries are not competitive with European markets, they are competitive only among themselves.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it a fact that a suggestion was made for reduction of the tariffs imposed at present by the Western countries; if so, what was the response to this suggestion?

Shri Kanungo: According to the Rome Treaty tariffs between the European community countries are being reduced by stages. The next reduction will come on 1st January, 1961. That is among themselves. That may result in the members of the community countries getting their supplies from among themselves or from their territories. It may have an effect upon exports from other countries, but in the last GATT conference this matter has been put up to other countries by 18 countries of Asia and Africa, and this question of tariff negotiation is being pursued. The main point we have in our favour, so to say, is this, that unless the European countries buy a larger quantity of goods from our area, we will be incapable of buying more from their area.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Since the Commonwealth is also an economic entity, what safeguards will India ask for if Britain enters the European Common Market as a full-fledged market?

Shri Kanungo: As the statement shows, that point has been discussed preliminarily. The U.K. has not yet made up its mind. When it does, that point will be considered because trade ties are so intimate that they cannot be diverted so quickly.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: The statement refers to an appeal to the European Economic Community and the European Free Trade Association to adopt liberal tariff and commercial policies towards the trade of less

advanced countries. In view of this, may I know whether the commercial policy of this country will be changed?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, that is what I said earlier, that the policy between the countries of the Rome Treaty is to reduce their tariffs gradually and bring them to nil. Then they have to orient their policy with other countries within the framework of GATT, and those negotiations are now taking place in Geneva.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Sir, 885 is an important question, it should be taken up. It relates to Chinese propaganda on the NEFA border.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Raghunath Singh should have given notice earlier.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I thought that it will be taken up in the normal course.

Mr. Speaker: I have already said that five minutes before the close of the Question Hour, I would be prepared to take up any questions which are very important, if the House generally desires that they should be taken up.

Shri Raghunath Singh: There is no short notice question today. Therefore, this may be taken up.

Shri Hem Barua: Yesterday, I wrote to you at about 10.30 a.m. for taking up a similar question, but I was neglected.

Mr. Speaker: But, we were so much interested in the other questions that the hon. Member himself forgot to mention it again.

Shri Hem Barua: I just tried to raise it again, but I was brushed aside.

Mr. Speaker: It is too late now. The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Reports of Public Undertakings

*871. **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**
Will the Minister of Commerce and

Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 905 on the 30th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether consideration has been completed by Government of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee in their 20th and 60th Reports that for all public undertakings a performance and programme statement for the budget year together with the previous year's statements should be made available to Parliament at the time of the annual budget;

(b) if so, the result of the consideration; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for the delay in arriving at a decision?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). Sir, the Minister of Finance will answer this Question on a subsequent date.

Export of Chemicals

*875. **Shri Khimji:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation left for Middle East and Africa to step up the export of chemicals to that region during this year; and

(b) if so, whether the delegation has submitted its report?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The delegation returned to India on 22nd October, 1960 and its report is awaited.

Fertilizer Plant at Trombay

*879. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shri Hem Barua:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U.S.A. will finance the

entire cost of the fertilizer plant to be built at Trombay;

(b) if so, the nature and details of the deal; and

(c) the potential production of the fertilizer factory?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The U.S. Authorities have offered 30 million dollars from the Development Loan Fund for import of equipment and 28 million dollars from PL 480 Funds for meeting rupee expenditure.

(c) 90,000 tons of fixed nitrogen to be produced partly in the form of urea and partly as a mixed fertiliser containing both nitrogen and phosphorus.

Manufacture of Newsprint

*880. { **Shri Agadi:**
Shri Sugandhi:
Shri Achar:

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

(a) whether permission has been accorded to or application received for setting up a Rs. 10 crore newsprint factory for manufacturing Newsprint from sugarcane bagasse to Messrs. Sahu Jain Ltd. in Maharashtra State; and

(b) whether the opinion of experts in regard to economic aspect of manufacturing newsprint from sugarcane bagasse stands good or is it revised?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The proposal has been approved in principle. Final licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, has not yet been issued.

(b) The opinion was only in respect of the implementation in the public sector of the specific project adopting the A-Z process for establishing a newsprint manufacturing plant wholly based on bagasse. That opinion still continues. The general