

**Invitation to President of Russia and
Other Republics**

4665. SHRI M.V. CHAN-
DRASEKHARA MUR-
THY:
SHRI VILASRAO NAG-
NATHRAO GUNDE-
WAR:
SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA
WASNIK:
SHRI CHANDRA JEET
YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF-
FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has extended invita-
tion to the President of Russia and other
Republics of USSR to visit India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and their
response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AF-
FAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Presidents of the
Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belarus,
Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Turkmenistan and
Tadjikistan have so far been invited to visit
India. The dates of their visits are being
finalised through diplomatic channels.

**Closure of Steel Plants Due to
Non-Supply of Imported Carbon Steel
Scrap**

4666. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA
MURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL be
pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of steel
plants in the country have been closed dur-
ing the current year due to non-supply of
imported carbon steel scrap;

(b) if so, whether the Metal Scrap Trad-
ing Corporation has not imported adequate

quantity of carbon steel scrap;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by
the Government to meet its demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH
MOHAN DEB) (a) It is not a fact that a large
number of steel plants in the country have
been closed during the current year due to
non-supply of imported carbon steel melting
scrap. However, production in the ministeel
industry has been affected due to the short-
age of imported steel melting scrap.

(b) and (c). Import of melting scrap
through the canalising agency, Metal Scrap
Trade Corporation (MSTC), has reduced
during the current year due to non-availability
of adequate free foreign exchange.

(d) Efforts are being made to increase
imports through MSTIC. The user industries
can also import scrap directly through the
use of Exim Scrips.

Import of Petroleum Products

4667. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA
MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS Will the Minister of be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the indigeneous production
of petroleum products is inadequate to meet
the internal demand;

(b) whether the Government propose to
import petroleum products during 1991-92;

(c) if so, the details of the countries from
where petroleum products are likely to be
imported;

(d) the details of the efforts being made
by the Government to boost the production