

large sources of iron ore are being discovered and developed in various parts of the world. So far India has held its position in the Japanese market as the largest single supplier. In 1962 India supplied 4.5 million tonnes out of the total Japanese imports of about 22 million tonnes of iron ore. While the Japanese imports have doubled to 44 million tonnes in 1966, Indian exports to Japan have also more than doubled to 9.69 million tonnes in 1966. This was almost 2 million tonnes ahead of Chile which is the second biggest supplier to Japan. To improve upon this position or even to maintain it, it would be necessary to considerably improve and modernize our port loading arrangements and increase the use of mechanical handling of ore shipments. In keeping with the changes in world steel technology, it would be necessary to adjust to the increasing demand for sinter-feed and also pellets, as compared to natural lumpy ore. Highest priority is attached to the iron ore export programme which is intended to secure these ends.

u Import of Menthol

7992. **Shri K. Ramani:**
Shri Jyotirmoy Basu;
Shrimati Suscela Gopalan;
Shri Umanath:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of menthol has been banned by Government;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that a very large quantity of menthol imported against licences issued to some actual users has already arrived in the country;

(c) the names of the actual users and the total quantity and value of such imports;

(d) whether complaints have been received from the Indian producers that they find it difficult to market their produce; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to protect the indigenous industry?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A statement (Annexure-I) showing quantity and value of actual imports of Menthol during the periods April-March '65 to April-March '67 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1336/67].

(c) A statement (Annexure-II) showing particulars of licences issued for import of Menthol is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1336/67].

(d) No such complaint has been received.

(e) Does not arise.

Export of Tea

7993. **Shri Mohammad Ismail:**
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation are considering a proposal to enter export trade of tea;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the State Trading Corporation is likely to enter the export trade of tea?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) The State Trading Corporation has no proposal under consideration to enter the export trade in tea.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Lack of Co-ordination between Industrial Research and Industries

7994. **Shri Kameshwar Singh:**
Shri A. Sreedharan:
Shri Sri Chand Goel:
Kumari Rajani Gandha:
Shri S. Kundu:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards the lack of co-ordination between industrial research and industries; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) The Government is aware of the gap in effective co-ordination between Industrial research and the industries.

(b) Some of the measures taken or proposed to be taken are:—

(1) Mutual representation of technical experts from the industries on the Executive Council of the National Research Laboratories and that of Scientists from the National Laboratories on the Development Councils constituted under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act.

(2) Organisation of Co-operative Research Associations for industries. At present there are 12 Co-operative Research Associations functioning/registered.

(3) Organising Get-together of Research and Industry and Open days by the Laboratories. Personnel from the industries are invited to acquaint themselves with the work in progress in the laboratories and have the benefit of exchange of views. This helps the Laboratories in the identification of problems of research for the benefit of industries.

(4) The laboratories have set up their regional and extension centres with a view to obtaining close coordination with the industries in the region.

(5) In collaboration with the Chemical Manufacturers' Association of India, a Technical Information Centre for Chemical Industries is already functioning in

Bombay. Such centres are also being planned to be set up at Calcutta and Bangalore.

(6) Dissemination of results of research through publications of periodical bulletins and other journals.

(7) Encouraging visits of the technical personnel from industry to the research laboratories and that of scientists from the research laboratories to the industries concerned.

Production of Cement

7995. Shri Yogendra Sharma: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to cut down the Fourth Plan target for cement production;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the target proposed now; and

(d) how much of this is expected to be produced in the private sector?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (c). In the draft Fourth Five Year Plan, capacity and production target of 23 and 20 million tonnes respectively has been indicated for cement by 1970-71. According to a recent review made by the Planning Commission, it has been noticed that in view of the general recession in economy, the demand for cement may not arise to 20 million tonnes by 1970-71 as earlier envisaged. The revised estimates of demand for cement will be attempted when a final view has been taken both on the Fourth Plan outlay as well as on sectoral allocations.

(d) Unless the target is finally settled, it is difficult to say how much of that will be produced in the private sector. However, on a rough estimate, about 85 per cent is expected to be produced in the private sector.