

Tassar Development Corporation at Ranchi

828. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether the Central Government had decided to set up a full-fledged 'Tassar' Development Corporation at Ranchi?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

No such decision has been taken.

Proposal to Advance Loans to Families in Tribal Belt of Bihar Engaged in Silk rearing Industry

1829. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the families in the tribal belt of Bihar are engaged in the silk-rearing industry; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to advance bank loans for such families?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Bank of India, Chaibasa and the Bank of India have been advancing loans to the adivasi rearers in Chaibasa, Chakradharpur and Singhbhum district.

Association of Iron-Ore Exporting Countries

1830. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Association of Iron-ore Exporting countries was formed by some countries some time back; and

(b) if so, names of the countries who have joined this Association so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Algeria, Australia, Chile, India, Mauritania, Peru, Sierra-Leone, Sweden, Tunisia and Venezuela.

Establishments Maintained Abroad by Public Undertakings

1831. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the establishments maintained abroad by the public undertakings; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange spent by these undertakings on these establishments during last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). This being a matter of day-to-day administration. Government do not maintain upto-date information. However, according to a recent survey made by the Bureau of Public Enterprises 22 Central Government industrial and commercial companies maintained 160 establishments in foreign countries during 1973-74. The total amount of foreign exchange spent on these establishments amounted to Rs. 37 crores in that year. Of this, Rs. 35 crores related to the 95 establishments maintained by Air India for their business. The 95 establishments of Air India also accentuated for a venue of Rs. 82 crores in foreign exchange during 1973-74. The work involved in collecting the information for 2 more years will be incommensurate with the results expected.

Payment of compulsory deposits through Provident Fund Offices

1832. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount disbursed so far through the Provident Fund Offices as repayment of the first instalment of workers compulsory deposits; and

(b) the amount still remaining to be disbursed during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM): (a) As on 13th August, 1976, an amount of Rs 16 87 crores has been disbursed through the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners towards repayment of the first instalment of additional dearness allowance deposits under the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974.

(b) An amount of Rs. 76 87 crores still remains to be disbursed through the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners during the current year

Stocks of Imported stainless steel with M.M.T.C.

1833. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of unsold stocks of imported stainless steel are now lying in the godowns of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation; and

(b) if so, its value and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). MMTC has in stock sufficient quantity of imported stainless steel to service known requirements of the industry. The position is kept constantly under review and corrective steps are taken as and when necessary.

Trade with China

1834. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

SHRI SAROJ MUKERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) total value of export to and import from the People's Republic of China as in 1957, 1962 and 1975;

(b) the main items of export to and import from that country, during the years referred to above;

(c) whether Government are considering to initiate talks with the Peoples Republic of China, with a view to normalise and strengthen trade relations with that country; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The total value of exports to and import from the People's Republic of China in 1957, 1962-63 and 1975-76 was as follows:—

Year	Exports	In Rs. lakhs Imports
1957	369	486
1962-63	14	99
1975-76		..

(b) The main items exported to the People's Republic of China during 1957 were sugar, shellac; sandalwood and oil; plants, seeds and flowers; mica blocks and splittings; chrome ore and concentrates and materials of animal origin. Main items of import from