

Trade gap

3395. SHRI RANJIT SINGH

GAEKWAD :

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY :

SHRI E. AAYAPU REDDY :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA :

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:

SHRI K. V. SHANKARA

GOWDA :

SHRI T. BASHEER :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that trade gap has widened in recent years;

(b) if so, figures for 1985-86 as against the corresponding period of last year;

(c) whether, in view of the widening trade gap, Government has taking steps to ensure that there is more and more import of Soviet machinery and equipment and also from other rupee payment countries; and

(d) if so, the other steps being taken to remedy balance of payment problem besides cutting down imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). The position of balance of trade during the last three years is as under :

Year		(Rs. in crores) Balance of Trade
1983-84	(R)	(—) 5,890.84
1984-85	(R)	(—) 5,318.10
1985-86	(P)	(—) 7,950.91

Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta

(P)—Provisional

(R)—Revised

(c) Efforts are being made to maximise imports from rupee payment countries.

(d) With a view to boost our exports, vigorous promotional measures have been

taken during the recent past. These include diversifying our production base, modernising our productive apparatus, strengthening of institutional support, modification and periodic revision of our industrial policies and fiscal incentives to exporters.

Non-availability of safe deposit lockers in Bangalore city

3396. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether safe deposit lockers in nationalised banks are not available to the public in Bangalore city; and

(b) whether Government propose to issue instructions to the nationalised banks to make provision for more number of safe deposit lockers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have not received any specific complaint regarding non-availability of safe deposit lockers in nationalised banks in Bangalore City.

Banks have been advised to plan for providing adequate number of lockers while opening branches in view of the increasing demand for lockers.

Indian nationals in foreign jails for violation of immigration laws

3397. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian nationals in jail in Singapore, USA, UK and other countries for violation of immigration laws;

(b) how many of them were caught while on social visit; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to tighten the immigration laws, issue of