

fuller utilisation of its capacity.

- (iii) It also gives a chance to manufacturers to manufacture materials of International Standards to make it globally competitive.
- (iv) It is an instrument of Import substitution.
- (v) It provides an exporter an easy access to the inputs required for export production.
- (vi) It generates employment opportunities.

#### **Business Ties Between India and Canada**

7607. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast potential for strengthening economic and business ties between India and Canada ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost Indo-Canadian ties ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Continuous efforts are being made to increase bilateral trade with Canada. The promotional measures include, *inter alia*, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, holding of buyer -seller meets, visits by specialised delegations from various sectors for creating market awareness. Besides, there exists a Joint Business Council in which representatives of the industries of both the countries periodically exchange view for

expanding trade.

#### **Enhancing the Production Target of Tobacco for Karnataka**

7608. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for tobacco production for Karnataka during 1994-95;

(b) whether Government propose to enhance the production target for the State particularly in view of goods soil, seasonal and rainfed conditions; and

(c) if not, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) 20.10 M.kgs of FCV tobacco.

(b) and (c) it is not proposed to enhance the production target of FCV tobacco for 1994-95 Karnataka crop for the following reasons :

- (1) Glut situation in world markets.
- (2) Large carryover stocks with Indian traders.
- (3) Near stagnant domestic demand.
- (4) Crop size is fixed on supply demand parameters.

#### **Japanese Securities Firms in Indian Financial Market**

7609. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign securities firms require the permission of the Union Government - Reserve Bank of India before entering the financial market establishing their regional offices or subsidiaries and getting the status of brokers in the Indian financial market;

(b) if so, whether the Japanese Securities firms have sought such permission and the permission has been accorded;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether some of these firms have already established their regional offices in India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) M/s. Nemura Securities Company Ltd., Japan has been permitted to open a liaison office in India for collecting information on financial and capital markets, rendering assistance for the development of the securities market in India and assisting Japanese and foreign corporations to invest in India.

### Sea-Food

7610. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the French Govt. has banned the import of Sea Food from India;

(b) of so, the details thereof along with reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the French Government; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) On account of protest from their fishermen against import of cheap fish from Russia, U.K. etc. French Government had recently put a ban on import of sea food from all sources other than those conforming to European Community Standards.

(c) and (d) India had also been hit by the ban. Govt. of India recently took up the matter with the concerned French authorities. The ban has since been lifted.

### Bonded Labour

7611. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centrally sponsored scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour has been drawn up for implementation under the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the progress made in its implementation so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government, a Centrally Sponsored scheme for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers was launched in 1978-79 under which financial assistance on matching grant (50:50) basis upto a ceiling limit of Rs. 6250/- per head is provided for the rehabilitation of identified