

inter alia the question of simplification of cooperative law and procedure and observed that "Many of the existing procedures impede the development of cooperation as a popular movement in which small groups and communities can function freely and organise their work and activities along cooperative lines without excessive official interference and red tape. The restrictive features of the existing cooperative legislation should be removed."

(b) and (c). Pursuant to the suggestion from the Government of India, almost all the State Governments appointed special committees or referred their cooperative laws to State Cooperative Councils for consideration and have modified their cooperative legislation either by enacting a new act or by amending their existing legislation.

A few State cooperative laws do however contain provisions empowering the Registrar or the State Government to rescind or to annul the resolutions of the general body or the managing committee of cooperative societies.

Planned Package of Schemes to strengthen Cooperative Sector in the Union Territory

4336. CHAUDHURY BRAHM PERKASH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration has drawn up a planned package of schemes to strengthen and extend the cooperative sector in the Union Territory;

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

(c) the assistance being provided by the centre to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the package of schemes are to consolidate the Cooperative movement and extend the benefits of Cooperatives to the Weaker Sections of the society; distribution of essential commodities to the consumers in rural as well as urban areas; provision of consumption and agricultural loans for the development of agriculture; and development of industrial Cooperatives and housing activities. Rural credit cooperatives are also being re-organised into viable units.

(c) During the first three years of the 5th Five Year Plan an expenditure of Rs. 38.34 lakhs has already been incurred. During the year 1977-78 an outlay of Rs. 46.00 lakh has been provided and an outlay of Rs. 59.09 lakh has been proposed by Delhi Administration for the year 1978-79 under the state sector.

Setting up of a Panel of Ministers to promote Exports

4337. SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a panel of Ministers to promote exports;

(b) what would be the functions of the panel; and

(c) whether Government propose to review its decision in regard to export of labour intensive commodities, particularly potatoes, onion and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir. A Cabinet Committee on Exports has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Commerce and Civil Supplies and Cooperation.

(b) The functions of the Committee will be to keep under review all aspects of export promotion and in particular:—

(i) to consider and take decisions on all matters relating to export production and export promotion; and

(ii) to consider policies and matters relating to establishment of joint ventures abroad.

(c) Export Policy for such agricultural commodities is kept under constant review. Exports are permitted as and when supplies are available after meeting domestic requirements.

Volume of Trade between India and Pakistan

4338. SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present volume of trade between India and Pakistan;

(b) whether there is a possibility of increasing the present level of trade; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG):

(a) The volume of trade between India and Pakistan in the recent years has been as under:—

(Value in Rs. Lakhs.)

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78 (April-June)
Exports from India	78	887	400
Imports from Pakistan	2212	1,48	0.47

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Efforts are underway to increase the level of trade between the two countries. New items of exports and imports are being identified. Facilitation in the obtaining of visas, encouragement through provision of information and assistance in providing contacts and in securing contracts are the means being employed to achieve this objective. The target for 1977-78 of Indian exports has been set at Rs. 1018 lakhs.

Volume of Trade between India and China

4339. SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present volume of trade between India and China;

(b) whether there is a possibility of increasing the present level of trade; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG):

(a) Trade with China was resumed in April, 1977 after a lapse of about 15 years. Since then, Indian Public Sector Agencies have concluded contracts with their Chinese counter-parts for a total trade turnover of about Rs. 4 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While it is not possible to state precisely the extent to which trade between India and China is likely to expand, the situation is being kept