

(b) if so, the proposed weight of the gold bars; and

(c) the need for manufacture of smaller gold bars?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b): No, Sir. Standard gold bars of 100 grammes denomination are sold in the fortnightly Reserve Bank of India auctions.

(c) A scheme for the sale of gold in small quantities to goldsmiths at fixed prices in between the Reserve Bank of India auctions from selected centres in the country is under the consideration of the Government. Standard gold bars of 10 and 50 grammes denominations would be used in such sales.

Trade between India and Bangladesh

3888. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL:

SHRI YAGYA DATT SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussion between India and Bangladesh to step up the trade between the two countries was held recently in New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the discussion held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Trade talks between India and Bangladesh were held at New Delhi from 23rd to 25th February, 1978.

(b) To facilitate further development and diversification of trade between the two countries special reference was made to import of newsprint, naptha, Furnace oil, Molasses and Choloroquin di-phosphate from Bangladesh and export of coal, iron and steel products, machinery, transport equipment and consumer items from

India. However, these are merely indicative of the areas of trade expansion as there is free trade with Bangladesh in convertible currency and all items permissible under the import export regimes of the two countries can be traded.

Pass Marks prescribed for S.C./S.T. in Departmental Examination in Income Tax Department

3889. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the order bearing No. O.M. No. 8|12|69|EST(SCT) of 23rd December, 1970, issued by Department of Personnel has been implemented, from the date of issue of this order in the Income Tax Department;

(b) if not, why and who is responsible for the gross violation of Government orders and what action has been taken against them by the Government;

(c) what are the marks prescribed for pass by the S.C./S.T. officials, as per the relaxed standard in the Departmental examinations conducted for U.D.C. I.T.I. etc. in the Income Tax Department; and

(d) what action has been taken to set right the backlogs if any on account of non implementation of this order from the date of issue of this order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) The Department of Personnel O.M. dated 23rd December, 1970 refers only to "Departmental Competitive Examinations" for promotion and "Departmental Confirmation Examinations". The Departmental Examinations prescribed in the Income-tax Department do not exactly conform to this description as these are only qualifying examinations. Mere passing a Departmental Examination does not automatically lead to