

Import of Cotton from Soviet Union

1591. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to import cotton from the Soviet Union for conversion into yarn, using India's surplus spinning capacity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1592. SHRI P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work of the Visakhapatnam steel plant has slowed down;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government are considering any steps to increase the pace of construction work, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) So far, only pre-construction activities such as site levelling, soil investigation, provision of approach roads, construction water and power, railway siding, etc., have been taken up at site. These are proceeding generally according to the time schedule.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Export of Citrus Fruits

1593. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA DASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total value of export of citrus fruits like Citrus Acidia, Citrus aurantium and Citrus decumana for the years 1975-76 to 1979-80?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): The total value of exports of Citrus fruits like Oranges, Mandarines, Lemon and Limes, Grapefruit and other Citrus fruits during the years 1975-76 to 1979-80 was as under:

	Value : Rs. lakhs
1975-76	50.24
1976-77	80.00
1977-78	115.79
1978-79	157.35
1979-80	7.14

The figures for the year 1979-80 are provisional and are based on Daily Lists of Exports of Customs Houses, excluding exports to Bangladesh.

Export of Bananas and Mangoes

1594. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether exports of unprocessed plantain fruits and Mango fruits are increasing or decreasing;

(b) what were the total values of exports of (i) plantain (Banana) fruits (ii) Mango fruits in 1979-80; and

(c) whether Government have investigated the possibilities of exporting the real bananas of (NENTHIRAN) Kerala and if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI