

INDIAN IRON AND STEEL COMPANY:

Regarding modernisation/expansion of Indian Iron and Steel Company, the proposal to instal a sintering plant is also under consideration. Modernisation of this plant with technical assistance from USSR is also under consideration.

Functions of Marine Products Export Development Authority

4678. SHRI DAULAT SINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Marine Products Export Development Authority was set up; and

(b) what are the main functions handled by the Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) The Marine Products Export Development Authority was set up on 16th August, 1972 under the MPEDA Act (Act 13) of 1972,

(b) According to Sec. 9(1) of the MPEDA Act, it shall be the duty of the authority to promote, by such measures as it thinks fit, the development under the control of the Central Government of the marine products industry with special reference to exports.

International Coffee Agreement

4679. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the international coffee agreement fixing export quotas and a price band of 115 to 155 has since been finalised;

(b) whether with the Karnataka Government's decision to withdraw 10 per cent surcharge on the agricultural income-tax on plantation and other cash crops grown in the State, India has made any serious efforts to

zest higher allocation and concentrate on the quota countries (the non-communist countries); if so, what;

(c) the quantity exported last year and likely to be exported during the current year to the Socialist bloc under bilateral agreements and otherwise; and

(d) other measures being taken to boost the export of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Quotas have been brought into force from 1-10-1980.

(b) In the light of the increased production of coffee and consequent increased surpluses, development of exports to quota countries to fulfil our quotas does not pose any problem even after meeting the requirements of countries with whom we have bilateral trade agreements.

(c) The following are the exports of coffee to the Socialist bloc countries against the trade plan provisions:

	1979	1980
		As on 15-12-80 (in tonnes)
U.S.S.R.	21200 402	21500 1073 (instant coffee)
Czechoslovakia	2500	4978
Romania	2121
G.D.R.	2003	1965

(d) Concerted efforts are being made to increase the exports to member countries (Traditional Markets) to achieve the higher quota through release of adequate quantities in export auctions and intensified direct sale operations. Added to the above, to improve exports to the New Markets in South East Asia and North Africa,

of which there are potential member countries like Japan, Australia and Newzealand; a scheme of rebate is being operated.

Supply of Iron Ore to Pakistan for Steel Complex near Karachi

4680. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:

SHRI R. L. BHATIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has agreed to supply iron ore to Pakistan for its newly built Soviet-aided Steel Complex near Karachi;

(b) if so, the quantity agreed to be supplied and how long will it continue;

(c) whether the supply is part of any bilateral deal or it shall be paid for by Pakistan; if so, in which currency; and

(d) from which place ore will be supplied and the mode of transport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) An agreement to supply Iron Ore to Pakistan was concluded with Pakistan Steel Mills Corporation, Karachi, in May, 1980.

(b) The agreement provides for supply of 1.93 million tonnes of iron ore spread over a period of 7 years from September, 1980 to March, 1987.

(c) The agreement for supply of iron ore is not a part of any bilateral deal and payment for iron ore will be received in US Dollars.

(d) The Iron Ore is being supplied to Pakistan from Bellary Hospet Sector in Karnatka State and the ore is transported by rail from loading stations to the rail-heads nearest to the port of shipment and thereafter by road to the port.

Negotiations with E.E.C. for Commercial and Economic Cooperative Treaty

4681. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the negotiations with the European Economic Community for new commercial and economic Community for new commercial and economic co-operative treaty stand;

(b) the broad details of the agreement likely to be concluded with the E.E.C.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Negotiations for the conclusion of a new Commercial and Economic Co-operation Agreement between India and the European Economic Community are in a fairly advanced stage and it may be finalised soon.

(b) The new Agreement is sought to be made more broad-based covering all areas of economic and industrial cooperation including cooperation in the fields of industry, science and technology, research and development as well as joint ventures in third countries.

Proposed Development of Small Scale Industries by Rourkela Steel Plant

4682. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rourkela Steel Plant authorities propose to undertake a detailed plan for development of small-scale industries in the peripheral areas of the plant;

(b) the number and names of the villages identified for this purpose;

(c) whether the steel plant authorities have any plan to give to priority to the villages having mostly tribal inhabitants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?