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- श्री एच. पी. शर्मा, संयुक्त सचिव, विधि तथा न्याय मन्त्रालय ।
- श्री बी.एन. चौलस, महानिदेशक, वाणिज्य विभाग ।
- श्री डी. पी. गौतम, महानिदेशक, टैक्स विभाग ।
- श्री जी. एल. राजभण्डारी, संयुक्त सचिव, वाणिज्य तथा पूर्ति मन्त्रालय ।
- श्री जे. पी. राणा, संयुक्त सचिव, विदेश कार्य मन्त्रालय ।
- श्री ए. एन. एस. थापा, संयुक्त सचिव उद्योग मन्त्रालय ।
- श्री एम. पी. लहानी, महा-कंसल, शाही नेपाली कंसल्टे जनरल, कलकत्ता ।
- श्री के. के. बसनेट, कार्यकारी महाप्रबंधक, सीमा शुल्क विभाग ।
- श्री आई. आर. पाण्डे, डिप्टी गवर्नर, नेपाल राष्ट्र बैंक ।
- श्री एल. एल. श्रेष्ठ, उध्यक्ष, नेपाल पारवहन तथा भण्डागार निगम ।
- श्री एस. आर. भण्डारी, अध्यक्ष, व्यापार संवर्धन सँटर ।
- श्री जी. एम. मसकी, कार्यकारी महा-प्रबन्धक, नेशनल ट्रेडिंग लि. ।
- श्री वी. आर. चोलस, अवसर सचिव, वाणिज्य तथा पूर्ति मन्त्रालय ।

**Increase in production of steel in Public Sector**

1907. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA. Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there had considerable increase in the production of steel in the public sector; and

(b) if so, whether possibilities of exporting steel are also being explored?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. The overall production of saleable steel in the integrated steel plants in

the public sector during the first four months of the current financial year, 1981-82, i.e., during April—July, 1981, has shown an increase of 3.98 lakh tonnes (30.7 per cent) as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, i.e., April—July, 1980

(b) The position regarding availability of exportable surplus in the context of domestic demand and production is kept under constant review. In view of the past shortages, it is rather too early to take a view in regard to export of steel.

**Nationalisation of Import and Export Business of Diamonds**

1908 SHRI BHEERAVADAN K. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in import of rough diamonds and export of cut and polished diamonds there exists a racket and black-money operation; and

(b) whether Government propose to nationalise import and export business of diamonds or to regulate it through State Trading Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Government have no such information.

(b) There is no proposal to canalise import and export of diamonds through a public sector agency. Steps are, however, taken to expand the role of public sector agencies in this trade.

**Completion of Calicut Airport**

1909. SHRI A. A. RAHIM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by what time the Calicut Airport is expected to be completed; and

(b) considering the traffic intensity, will this be a regular airport with all facilities for passengers?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA):** (a) The project regarding construction of Calicut airport is likely to be completed in 4 5 years from the date of commencement after the project is sanctioned.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**Purchase of Mesta by Jute Corporation of India**

**1910. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jute Corporation of India is purchasing mesta in Andhra Pradesh State, and

(b) if so, the quantity purchased last year?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 31 2 thousand bales of mesta were purchased by JCI and Cooperatives in Andhra Pradesh during the last year (1960-61 season).

**Cochin as a Free Trade Zone**

**1911 PROF. P. J. KURIEN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation to declare Cochin as a free trade zone; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction and the action taken so far?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal had been received from the Government of Kerala to declare Cochin as a free trade zone. But in view of the decision taken by the Government of India in May,

1976 not to set up any more free trade zones in the country, such requests including that of Cochin for setting up free trade zones in the country have not been agreed to.

However, the Government of India have recently announced a 100 per cent export oriented scheme. Such units can be located anywhere in India and will be eligible for duty free imports of capital goods, raw material and component as in the case of units located in the free trade zones.

**Assets of people working in Public Dealing Departments**

**1912. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that majority of the people working in the public dealing departments like the Civil Supplies, Income-Tax, Sales Tax, Customs, Central Excise, Police, D.D.A., Excise and Taxation, State Transport Authority, House Tax, Licensing, C.P.W.D. etc., have amassed great wealth and own assets disproportionate to their known sources of income and are top landlords in Delhi's prestigious and posh colonies fully equipped with modern luxurious facilities; and

(b) if so, whether a survey is proposed to be conducted to book such people and get their houses and assets evaluated together with screening their income-tax returns and bank accounts?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA):** (a) and (b). There is no information that a majority of the people working in the public dealing departments have amassed great wealth and own assets disproportionate to their known sources of income and are top landlords of Delhi's prestigious and posh colonies. The Income-tax Department has, however, been asked to make survey of all houses in posh colonies, with a view to unearthing unreported income/wealth. This survey will also cover the houses.