

Export of Tea

3391. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Fangarkar:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trend in tea exports which suffered a sharp set-back last year has since improved,

(b) if so, the quantity of tea exported during 1957 and 1958 and that to be exported in 1959 and the value thereof (year-wise and country-wise), and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to promote the export?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) During 1958, both the quantity and earnings from tea exports were higher than those of 1957

(b) A statement showing quantity and value of tea exported to various countries during 1957 and 1958 is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No 8] It is not possible to give estimates of tea exports during 1959

(c) Besides the general measures of tea promotion such as participation in Tea Council, foreign exhibitions and fairs; distribution of samples sending out delegations to foreign countries, export of dust teas without export quota rights and reductions in excise and export duty on tea, Government have under consideration the following proposals for promotion of tea exports.

(i) opening of Public Relations Units in Egypt and Australia, and

(ii) appointment of Tea Promotion Officers in certain countries.

Indian Standards Institution

3392. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Standards Institution is taking up the formulation of Indian Standards for more products which are being exported; and

(b) if so, the names of such export products?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A list is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix VII, annexure No 9]

Foreign Publicity

3393. { Shri D C. Sharma:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to intensify foreign publicity to counteract Pakistan's false propoganda against Kashmir during 1958-59?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Important news items and facts about Kashmir problem were morsecast regularly to our Missions abroad through daily transmissions from the External Publicity Division. These were is used to the Press by our Publicity Posts.

Our Missions abroad issued brochure and pamphlets in languages of their respective regions explaining facts about Kashmir and took prompt corrective action in refuting misleading press reports on the subject

A number of pamphlets on Kashmir were also produced by the Excrnal Publicity Division and widely distributed abroad through our Missions. A list of such pamphlets is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix VII, annexure No 10]

Two private publications [included in the list which is laid on the Table