

### Indo-Bulgaria Agreement for supply of iron ore

1998. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Bulgaria agreement has been concluded for the supply of iron ore in the month of August, 1982; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

### News-item Captioned "two Armymen held for Stealing Batteries"

1999. SHRI D.L. BAITHA:  
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn towards a news-item appearing in the local daily "Two Armymen held for stealing batteries" dated 29.8.82 and if so, the details of the case with the value of the batteries stolen; and

(b) what steps are being contemplated to be taken by Government to stop such racket of theft of batteries and other material from Ordnance Depots?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir. The details are indicated in the Annexure.

(b) Adequate security measures already exist to guard against such incidents of theft.

On the 27th August, 1982, 95 unserviceable Batteries were collected from the Traffic Branch of the COD Delhi Cantt and loaded in a 3 ton lorry for depositing with the Salvage Sub Depot. After completing all formalities, the Driver appeared to have diverted the vehicles for unloading

the batteries somewhere else. Two civilian personnel of the Depot viz., the driver and the Storekeeper suspected to be involved in the incident were arrested by the Civil Police on the 27th and 28th August 1982 respectively. The individuals have been since placed under suspension and a Staff Court of Inquiry has also been ordered by the HQ Delhi Area.

The batteries were unserviceable. Their value has been estimated at Rs. 10,000/- and not Rs. 1.15 lakhs as mentioned in the news item. Out of the 95 unserviceable batteries unauthorisedly diverted, 86 batteries have been seized by the Police. The concerned authorities have been requested to recover the remaining missing 9 batteries and arrange to return all the 95 batteries to the Depot at the earliest.

### Formation of Asian Pacific Silk Club

2000. SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have participated in any talks regarding the formation of an Asian-Pacific Silk Club so as to bring together on a common platform all silk producing countries of the area to examine the various aspects of rational co-operation from mulberry growing stage to final fabric production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). A Regional Working Group Meeting on Silk, under the auspices of ESCAP was held in Bangalore from 1st to 4th June. The Government of India was represented in this group. It was felt that there was a need to organize a Regional Consultative Group on Silk, which all silk producing countries, of the ESCAP region which were members or associate members of ESCAP, could join. This group could cooperate in production, processing, marketing, research and development, collection of statistics etc. The ESCAP Committee on Trade which will meet in Bangkok next month will consider ways and means of implementing the recommendations.