

(c) the quota allocated to private trade and the State Trading Agencies during the current year; and

(d) whether this import is routed through Pakistan or some part of it comes through Bombay also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). During 1980-81 (upto February 1981) Afghanistan had the largest share in the export of seasonal dry fruits (excluding dates and cashewnuts) to India. Import statistics beyond February 1981 are not yet available.

(c) The current import policy does not allocate any separate quotas to the private trade and the State Trading Agencies. Import is allowed to dealers engaged in this trade on the basis of their Previous imports in a specified period.

(d) Imports can be made by air, by land route or by sea.

Imports of books, Periodicals and Literature from Soviet Union

3259. **SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of the books, periodicals and other literature imported by India from the Soviet Union annually between 1975 to 1981;

(b) the total value of books and such material exported from India to the Soviet Union during the same period; and

(c) the details of the foreign exchange, if any involved and the extent to which India is a gainer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Trade with USSR is conducted on a bilateral, balanced basis, is non-convertible Indian Rupees. Thus, no free foreign exchange payment is involved.

Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference in London

3260. **SHRI B. V. DESAI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has strongly pleaded with the World Bank for financing poor countries for their development needs and has asked 2.5 billion without any expansion of its present capital;

(b) whether this was also pleaded by India during the two day discussions of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference held in London during the month of September;

(c) if so, whether the World Bank has approved this suggestion of India; and

(d) if not, the main reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). At the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference and the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and the IMF held in Toronto in August/September 1982, India stressed the fact that the present crisis facing the developing countries had increased their financing needs and made it essential that there should be an expansion in the volume of concessional assistance to them. In particular, it was urged that immediate steps should be taken to achieve a substantial increase, in real terms, in lending from the IBRD. Similarly, the forthcoming Seventh Replenishment of IDA should represent a substantial increase in real terms over the Sixth Replenishment.

(c) and (d). These suggestions received considerable support from developing countries. However, a final consensus on increased levels of lending from the World Bank group has yet to emerge.

Rotation of Staff through transfers to Nationalised Banks

3261. **SHRI B. V. DESAI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry have directed all nationalised banks to