

reply given to Starred Question No. 1347 on the 8th April, 1960 and state:

(a) the progress made regarding the establishment of a Centre for training Indian technicians in the manufacture of Precision Instruments in India; and

(b) if so, when the centre is likely to be established?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The French authorities have been requested to send a second French Delegation to India for further detailed discussions about the proposed Centre.

(b) This will depend on the outcome of the discussions.

Hydel Projects Schemes in N.E.F.A.

1988. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1346 on the 8th April, 1960 and state the progress made so far in examination of the Hydel Project Schemes in NEFA?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The Central Water and Power Commission had carried out reconnaissance surveys of four hydel projects near Bomdi La, Tezu, Along and Pasighat in the North East Frontier Agency. The schemes for Bomdi La, Along and Pasighat were found promising and that for Tezu needed further investigation. Decision has since been taken to constitute an Investigation Sub-Division under an Assistant Engineer to carry out more detailed investigations of the projects. These are expected to be completed by June, 1961.

Drilling Equipment:

1989. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhad:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total value paid in foreign exchange for importing drilling equipment during the last three years?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): The total value of imports of drilling equipment and

parts thereof for the years 1958, 1959 and 1960 (January-May) is about Rs. 6:47 crores.

Exports to U.K.

1990. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps that have been taken recently to develop Indian exports to the U.K.?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): A statement is laid on the Table.

STATEMENT

1. (i) U.K. reduced the "mark-up" on jute goods imported by the Jute Controller, from 30 per cent. to 20 per cent, from the 15th January, 1960. The question of a further reduction in the "mark-up" is under discussion with the U.K. Government authorities.
- (ii) It has been decided to post an experienced officer for tea promotion work in the U.K.
- (iii) Market surveys have been conducted by independent agencies on (a) tea and (b) silk and cotton scarves.
- (iv) Participation in fairs and exhibitions in the U.K. was continued on a limited scale.
- (v) Trade delegations were sent on behalf of the following organisations:—
 - (1) The Indian Jute Mills Association.
 - (2) Sports goods Export Promotion Council.
 - (3) The Coir Board.
- (vi) Press publicity was arranged in U.K. papers for items like cashewnuts and pepper.

2. The steps indicated above are in addition to the efforts being made generally to improve the competitive position of Indian goods in Overseas markets through measures aimed at reducing costs and improving quality.