

Meetings of Indo-British Economic Committee Held in New Delhi

1121. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-British economic committee had its meetings in New Delhi in the second week of January this year;

(b) the new areas of economic co-operation identified in the meetings and the decisions taken to reinforce co-operation in the existing bilateral trade areas;

(c) the estimated balance of trade between India and the U.K. for the current year; how it compares with the exports and imports figures for the year 1982-83; and

(d) the volume of trade likely to be transacted during 1984-85 under the new agreements if any concluded as a result of these meetings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The discussions held at the meeting pertain to trade and industrial cooperation between the two countries. Both sides agreed that their aim should be extension of trade and industrial collaboration on mutually/beneficial basis.

(c) and (d) Figures for bilateral trade between India and UK for the period April-June, 1982 and April-June, 1983 are given below :—

(in Rs. crores)

	Exports	Imports	Balance of Trade
1982-83 (April-June)	88.41	233.25	—144.74
1983-84 (April-June)	96.92	183.77	— 86.85

In the minutes of the meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee, no figures have been indicated regarding the volume of trade likely to be transacted during 1984-85.

Under-Utilisation of Export Quota in 1983

1122. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India utilised about 60 per cent of the export quota available to it in 1983 under EEC's Generalised System of Preferences;

(b) if so, the reasons for under-utilisation of the quotas; and

(c) the comparative export figures for 1982 and 1983 under the scheme, item-wise indicating the export quotas available for each item ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) and (b) The GSP utilisation statistics for 1983 are not available from the EEC.

(c) The export figures for 1982 in respect of items subject to quotas/ceilings are given in the enclosed statement.