

indications that India's share is likely to be reduced.

(b) and (c) According to the I.M.F. Survey dated 6th August, 1984, preliminary OECD estimates indicate that net disbursements of Official Development Assistance by members of the Development Assistance Committee, including non-concessional flows remained about the same in calendar years 1982 and 1983.

Agreement Signed for the U.S. Aid to Irrigation Programme in Maharashtra

4665. SHRIMATI USHA PRAKASH CHOUDHARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agreements for the U.S. aid to support irrigation programme in Maharashtra were signed recently; and

(b) if so, the areas in Maharashtra where irrigation facility would improve with this aid?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b) An agreement to support minor irrigation programmes in Maharashtra was signed with United States of America on 31st July, 1984. The specific areas which are to be covered under this agreement are in the process of identification.

Export of Handloom Products to West Asia

4666. DR. PRATAP WAGH

SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a big market for Indian tweed, blankets and saris in West Asia; and

(b) if so, the proposals to explore and expand handloom products exports?

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

(a) India has been exporting certain textiles products to West Asia including woollen/worsted fabrics, shawls and scarves, blankets as also some other handloom products.

(b) the Government encourages and sponsors participation in Fairs/Exhibitions, buyer-seller-meets and market orientation studies etc. to explore and boost exports of these products.

India's Trade With Third World Countries

4667. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Third World Countries offer vast scope for economic development, growth of trade and Indian Technology?

(b) if so, whether any study or survey had made for extension of trade and export in these countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Export market surveys for specific commodities and specific export markets in developing countries continue to be conducted from time to time. Additional steps taken by Government to promote trade economic and technical collaboration with Third World Countries include the following:—