

(b) Out of the total Indian exports of Rs. 4272.53 crores during April-September, 1983, USSR accounted for Rs. 578.59 crores.

(c) Indian and the Soviet Union propose to identify new items of import and export covering a wide range of products with a view to expanding and diversifying bilateral trade. However, new items of import and export would be included in the import and export baskets, when the Trade plan for 1985 and the Long-term Trade Plan for 1986-1990, are concluded.

(d) No such statistics are maintained.

Rejection of Consignments of Frozen Shrimps Exported by India to Japan and USA.

4745. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some consignments of frozen shrimps exported from India to Japan were rejected by the importers on the ground of their containing cholera germs;

(b) if so, the details of the same,

(c) the amount of loss incurred by way of rejected consignment;

(d) whether similar cases have occurred with shrimp exports to USA or other countries; and

(e) the steps taken to determine the source of cholera infection and to punish those responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 4.8 tonnes of Indian shrimp shipped from Madras port to Japan was rejected on the ground of contamination of cholera germ.

(c) to (e) The amount of loss cannot be worked out because the rejection is purely on a technical ground and the issue is being taken up with the Quarantine Authorities there by the MPEDA. However, as a precautionary measure, the Seafood Exporters' Association of India and the Export Inspection Agency have been alerted to avoid the recurrence of such incidents by way of following strict hygienic standards in the processing plants. No similar case of cholera germs has occurred in the recent past with shrimp exports to USA or other countries.

Imported Cement Allotted to Tamil Nadu

4746. SHRI ERA MOHAN : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of imported cement allotted to Tamil Nadu during the past three years and the names of countries and the vessels that unloaded cement in Tamil Nadu ;

(b) whether reports of scandal regarding sale of cement imported from Korea by the Madras University have come to the notice of Government ;

(c) the action taken both by the Central and State Governments thereon ; and

(d) whether any utilisation certificate has been submitted about the total quantity consumed out of the allotment, 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) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.