

tion of a Government owned company known as Gem India Ltd., should be established.

- (xv) In view of the higher ruling prices of gold in the internal market import of gold may be allowed at international prices to registered exporters of gold jewellery against their replenishment.

consideration of the Ministry of Mines and Metals.

- [xv] It has been agreed in principle to allow the Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation to import gold for export production. A detailed scheme is being worked out in consultation with the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council.

M.M.T.C.'s demand for extra payment equal to New Import duty on non-ferrous metals

1342. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation has demanded extra payment equal to the new import duties imposed in this year's budget on non-ferrous metals imported prior to 31st May, 1971;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the reaction of the contracted parties ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). The quantities of non-ferrous metals imported till the 29th May, 1971 were sold at the old prices to the extent to which the financial arrangements were made by the actual users before that date.

After the 29th May, 1971, non-ferrous metals were sold at the revised prices. They included marginal quantities of some of the metals which had been imported prior to the 29th May, 1971. This is the usual practice and has also been followed by the Corporation in similar situations in the past.

Export of Woollen Knitwears to USSR

1343. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether orders for woollen knitwears worth over Rs. 10 crores were declined by the hosiery exporters;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for materialising the export of Woollen knitwears to U.S.S.R. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No information regarding declining of orders by Indian hosiery exporters for woollen knitwear worth over Rs. 10 crores has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Export of Finished leather under G.S.P.

1344. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the advantages that would arise from the Generalised System of Preference of Tariffs so far as leather industry is concerned; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to