

by clause 27(a)(iv) of the Finance Bill, 1975. They have also made a request that the scooter industry should be included as a priority industry in the Ninth Schedule to the Income-tax Act, 1961.

On the facts as brought out in the representation by M/s. Scooters India Ltd., it appears that shares forming part of the initial issue of equity share capital made by the company will not qualify for the proposed tax concession. There is also no proposal at present to add the scooter industry to the list of priority industries in the said Ninth Schedule.

#### India's Exports to Hongkong

9416. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of India's exports to Hongkong during the last three years;

(b) whether a large part of this export is re-exported to China and Taiwan and if so, whether it is permissible under the terms of the agreement; and

(c) whether Government have studied the possibilities of further trade with Hongkong and if so, the plans for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) The value of India's exports to Hong Kong during 1971-72, 1972-73, and 1973-74 were Rs. 15.79 crores, Rs. 20.14 crores and Rs. 36.73 crores respectively.

(b) There is no Trade Agreement between India and Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a prominent entrepot centre, and it is not possible to say to what extent Indian goods are re-exported to other countries.

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(c) Possibilities of expanding trade with Hong Kong are constantly under review. Sales/Study Teams are sponsored when considered necessary. A wholly Indian Exhibition is being planned to be held in the near future.

#### Foreign Collaboration Agreements

9417. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreign collaboration agreements were approved by the Government of India during the quarter October—December, 1974 and January—March, 1975; and

(b) the particulars of agreements country-wise, and the foreign exchange component involved?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) The total number of foreign collaboration proposals approved by the Government of India during the quarters October-December, 1974 and January-March 1975 was as follows:—

	Total number of foreign collaboration proposals approved	Number of proposals approved involving foreign Capital investment
Oct.—Dec. '74	73	14
Jan.—Mar. '75	53	8

(b) The quarterly statements of these cases indicating the name of the Indian party, the name of the foreign collaborator, item of manufacture and whether the proposal involved foreign capital participation, are available in the Parliament Library.

It is difficult to indicate at this stage the foreign exchange outflow on account of dividends and royalties etc.

involved in these proposals which will be known only after the proposals are implemented and the units go into commercial production.

**Crash fire tenders at International Airports in India**

9418. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many crash fire tenders are in service at the international airports in India;

(b) from where have they been bought and what has been the foreign exchange content involved; and

(c) whether any global tenders were called for and are the specifications quoted adequate to fight fire in Boeings 707s and Jumbo jets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Twenty-four, six at each of the four international airports.

(b) Of these 24 crash fire tenders, 16 are wheel type and were purchased at different points of time during the period from 1957 to 1969 from the U.K., Czechoslovakia and Japan involving a total foreign exchange component of about Rs. 27.67 lakhs. The remaining 8 crash fire tenders are of track type and were procured from Canada under the Canadian Line of Credit involving a foreign exchange component of about Rs. 78.40 lakhs and were received in 1973 and 1974.

(c) Global tenders were invited by International Airports Authority of India for the procurement of 20 new wheel type crash fire tenders. The specifications adopted for these, the action for procurement of which is being progressed are considered adequate for fighting fires in Boeing 707s and Jumbo jets.

**Restriction on Import of Items for manufacture of Luxury non-essential goods**

9419. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to impose restrictions on import of items for the manufacture of luxury non-essential goods?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): The Import Policy for 1975-76 is already restrictive for non-select industries. The units falling under this category will be granted actual users licence for raw material and components on the basis of actual consumption of imported inputs in the previous year or the value of previous import licences whichever is lower. The import of certain items has also been further restricted.

**Sale of Trichy units of M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd.**

9420. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Lever Limited have sold their vanaspati producing unit at Trichy to M/s. Perumal Agencies Limited;

(b) whether under the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, the company are required to take permission of the Reserve Bank of India before disposing of any property and if so, whether such an application has been submitted;

(c) whether Hindustan Lever Limited re-evaluated their properties during 1972, including Trichy factory;

(d) whether Reserve Bank of India has taken into account the re-evaluated price of their Trichy unit while granting permission to Hindustan Lever Limited to dispose it of; and