

pared any scheme for the exploitation of Latin American markets on a high priority basis with a view to step up the countries' exchange earnings and, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any market surveys have been made in Latin American countries with a view to find out the exact potential for Indian goods;

(c) if so, which of the Indian products are found to be having considerable marketing potential in these countries; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to implement the scheme ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) No specific scheme has been drawn up. However, the question of improving India's trade with Latin American countries, as with other countries, is constantly under review.

(b) and (c). An Indian trade delegation visited Latin America in 1964 and suggested certain Indian products (list attached) which could find a market in this region.

(d) The steps taken to improve our trade with this region include the conclusion of Trade Agreements with Argentina and Brazil, participation in the Pacific International Trade Fair at Lima (Peru), the despatch of a representative of STC to discuss supply of railway equipment to Uruguay etc. Government are also considering the visit of an Indian Jute Delegation to Latin America and the improvement of shipping facilities for this region.

STATEMENT

Articles likely to find market in countries visited by the Trade Delegation in 1964.

BRAZIL

Tea, machinery, handicrafts and handlooms, Indian style footwear and sandals.

ARGENTINA

Textile machinery, jute goods.

CHILE

Indian cattle feed and poultry feed.

PERU

Indian spices, pharmaceuticals, pickles, chutneys and handicrafts.

BOLIVIA

Jute Goods.

COLOMBIA

Textile Machinery, pharmaceuticals and chemicals and spices.

VENEZUELA

Indian silks, handloom and handicrafts materials, Indian type footwear, brass decorative items, stainless steel utensils, hospital utensils, superfine textiles (voiles, poplins) embroidered textiles and prints, aluminium sulphate, chrome salt, refined peanut oil, small and large freeon and ammonia compressors, machinery for various industries, domestic electrical and hand-operated appliances, fruit concentrates, toys and sports goods.

SMALL CAR PROJECT

3837. SHRI S. R. DAMANI :
SHRI MOHAN SWARUP :
SHRI LOBO PRABHU :
SHRI J. H. PATEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is unanimity at the decision making level in the Central Government on the question of sanctioning a small car project; and

(b) the reaction of Government to the proposal of the Mysore Government to produce 50,000 small cars a year at ex-factory cost of Rs. 5,000 each ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) As stated in reply to Starred Question No. 40 answered in the Lok Sabha on the 23rd July, 1968, the availability of resources for the small car project during the Fourth Five Year Plan is being

ascertained from the Planning Commission. On receipt of the views of the Commission, Government will consider the project further to reach a decision.

(b) The proposal sponsored by the Government of Mysore will be considered, along with other similar schemes, after a decision is taken to proceed with the small car project.

MINERALS IN NEFA

3838. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Sulphur deposits have been discovered recently in the Subansiri District of NEFA;

(b) whether tests have been undertaken to verify the feasibility of commercial exploitation of these deposits; and

(c) if so, the results thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). Occurrences of sulphur bearing minerals at Potni in Subansiri district of NEFA has been noted by the Geological Survey of India. Detailed investigations are proposed to be taken up by the Geological Survey of India during 1968-69 to determine the nature and extent of occurrence. It is, therefore, premature to indicate the commercial potentialities of the deposits.

SPINNING MILLS IN PUBLIC SECTOR DURING FOURTH PLAN

3839. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9894 on the 7th May, 1968 and state :

(a) whether a final decision has since been taken to set up three centrally sponsored export-oriented spinning mills during the Fourth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the estimated production capacity of these Mills ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

INDO-U.A.R. TRADE AGREEMENT

3840. SHRI S. R. DAMANI :
SHRI SRADHAKAR
SUPAKAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the important features of the trade agreement signed between India and the U.A.R. on the 26th June, 1968; and

(b) the items, apart from the traditional exports, which will be exported to, and imported from, U.A.R. under the agreement ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) The Trade Agreement of 8th July, 1953 between India and the U.A.R. continues to be valid and no new trade agreement between the two countries has been signed recently. However, in June 1968, the trade plan for 1968-69 between the two countries was finalised. This trade plan provides for goods worth Rs. 64 crores to be exchanged between the two countries, during the period 1st July, 1968 to 30th June, 1969.

(b) The main items to be imported from the U.A.R. are cotton, rice, and rock phosphate. Other items can also be imported, by mutual agreement. Our exports to U.A.R. will contain our traditional items of export (tea, jute goods, spices and tobacco) as well as a large variety of non-traditional products e.g. chemicals and dyestuffs, drugs and pharmaceuticals, paper products, tyres and tubes, soft drink concentrate, fluorescent tubes and fittings, diesel engines, the chassis, buses and automotive spare parts, textile machinery, electric fans, dry batteries, etc.