

Export Policy

409. SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of COMMECE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Board of Trade had made certain recommendations in regard to the export policy of Government to boost the economy of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations made by the Board of Trade; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI):

(a) to (d). Presumably the Question relates to the formulation of an Export Policy Resolution. A Sub-Committee of the Board of Trade was constituted to suggest a draft of the Export Policy Resolution. The Sub-Committee has produced a draft, which is being further examined in consultation with other Ministries. Hence the final acceptance of the recommendations of the Board of Trade will have to await the completion of these procedures.

Royalty on Minerals

410. SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of Royalty on minerals has been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the rise in the mineral royalty yield likely to be effected as a result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (CHOWDHARY RAM SHWAK): (a) and (b). The rates of

royalty in respect of some of the important major minerals has been increased with effect from 1.7.1968. The revised rates are given in the Ministry's notification No. 1(44)/67-MII dated 29.6.1968, a copy of which is being laid on the Table of the House today. Revision of rates of royalty on iron ore and coal is under consideration.

(c) The rise in the mineral royalty yield, in respect of minerals for which it has been possible to calculate the increase, will be of the order of approximately Rs. 1.5 to Rs. 2.00 crores per annum on the basis of 1968 figures of mineral production.

British India Corporation

411. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry wrote a letter to the Ministry of Finance, (Department of Economic Affairs) on the 20th April, 1968 for transferring 200 shares of the British India Corporation to Shri Bilgrami;

(b) if so, the reasons for writing such a letter; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the British India Corporation has protested to the Government against this action?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It is a fact that a suggestion to transfer 200 shares out of the block of shares held in the British India Corporation in the name of the President of India, to Shri S. N. Bilgrami was considered on a reference from Shri Bilgrami who was coopted on the Board on the suggestion of Government as a shareholder. But he was advised to acquire the qualification shares which he did.

(c) No, Sir.