

thers entered into a barter deal with the State Trading Corporation for the export of Manganese in 1959;

(b) the terms and conditions of this barter deal;

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned under this barter deal; and

(d) the amount of import incentive licence of steel or other goods against this export given to this company?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Trading Corporation entered into contracts through M/s. Chaman Lal for a total quantity of 74,200 tons of manganese ore valued at about Rs. 108.23 lakhs being exported against import of steel materials.

(b) M/s. Chaman Lal Bros. were to enter into firm contracts for export of Manganese ore under which the foreign buyers were to establish firm letters of credit favouring the STC; the letters of credit were also to carry a Red Clause to the effect that in case the foreign buyers did not lift the goods within sixty days of declaration of stem, the suppliers would have the right of encashing the letter of credit and claim from the buyers for storage and watch and ward charges from the date of expiry of notice upto the date of shipment. On the establishment of satisfactory letters of credit, the STC were to apply to the Iron and Steel Controller for issue of import licences for urgently required steel materials upto the FOB value of the export contracts concluded. Imports of steel were allowed to precede exports of ore.

(c) After a quantity of 38,797 tons valued at Rs. 60.51 lakhs had been shipped, the foreign buyers expressed their inability to extend the

validity of the letters of credit because their bankers were unwilling to agree to incorporating a Red Clause. Thereupon, the buyers were persuaded to extend the letters of credit without the Red Clause and to furnish a bank guarantee, in lieu of the Red Clause, for 15% of the value of the exports that remained to be completed, because exports to the full value could not materialise, bank guarantee of Rs. 6.53 lakhs was forfeited. The total amount of foreign exchange earned under the above deal was Rs. 83.52 lakhs.

(d) The total value of the imports was Rs. 94.31 lakhs. Items of import were H.B. wire, M. S. Plates, G.P. and B.P. Sheets, Stainless Steel, and Signal G.I. Wire.

Demand and Supply of Zinc Sheets

4162. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Supply, Technical Development and Materials Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made as to the demand and supply of zinc sheets in the Country and the number of units engaged in the manufacture of zinc sheets with their capacity and present production;

(b) whether Government have any control over the distribution of this product; and if so, the nature of control exercised;

(c) whether it is a fact that the block making industry does not get sufficient supply of zinc sheets at reasonable price and if so, whether any representation was made in this regard specially drawing the attention of Government towards the black marketing done by some agents of the manufacturers; and

(d) the steps taken for proper supply of zinc sheets to the block makers?

The Minister of Supply, Technical Development and Materials Planning (Shri Raghunath Ramiah): (a) While no precise assessment has been made of the overall demand for zinc sheets,

strips and plates which are required by a number of engineering industries, the Tariff Commission Report has indicated the demand for highly polished zinc sheets used in the printing industry as under:—

1964-65	420 tonnes
1965-66	480 "
1966-67	525 "

There is only one unit engaged in this industry. Its production averaged 4250 tonnes of zinc strips for battery manufacture and 250 tonnes of photo-engraver plates for printing industry during the years 1964 and 1965. The capacity for the manufacture of the latter item has been worked out at 600 tonnes on maximum plant utilisation basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Attention of Government has been drawn to the short availability of zinc plates (highly polished zinc sheets) required for block making in the printing industry. No instances of black marketing have, however, come to notice.

(d) To relieve the shortage of highly polished zinc sheets required by block makers, a quantity of 525 tonnes out of the zinc released from the MMTC to the only unit engaged in this industry is being reserved for the manufacture of highly polished zinc sheets.

Export of Onion

4163. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's export trade in Onion with Ceylon is going to be lost;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether efforts to export onion to other countries are being made; and

(d) the results thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A statement showing the value of exports made to other countries is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7010/66].

पाकिस्तान से मछली तथा चावल का आयात

4164. श्री प० ला० बाहूपाल:
श्री बुलेडवर मोना:

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पाकिस्तान ने भारत को चावल तथा मछली का निर्यात बन्द कर दिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो भारत ने इसके विरोध में पाकिस्तान को किन-किन वस्तुओं का निर्यात बन्द कर दिया है; और

(ग) पाकिस्तान द्वारा इन वस्तुओं का निर्यात बन्द करने के क्या कारण बताये गये हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह) :

(क) से (ग). भारत-पाक संघर्ष के परिणामस्वरूप 10 सितम्बर, 1965 से पाकिस्तान के साथ व्यापार पर पाबन्दी लगा दी गयी थी। यह पाबन्दी 27 मई, 1966 से ताश्कन्द घोषणा का पालन करते हुए एकतरफा तौर पर हमने हटा ली थी। तो भी, पाकिस्तान सरकार ने अब तक इसी प्रकार की कार्यवाही नहीं की है जिसने भी भारत से व्यापार करने पर पाबन्दी लगा दी थी।