

between the representatives of India and Nepal held in Kathmandu in November, 1968, the Government of Nepal have agreed to limit the export of synthetic yarn fabrics and stainless steel manufactures to India to the level of 1967-68, and to restrict also the allocation of foreign exchange for the production of these items to 1967-68 level. The effectiveness of these steps would be reviewed at the next meeting of the Inter-Governmental Joint Committee.

#### Export of Tobacco

5812. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA :  
SHRI P. ANTONY REDDY :  
SHRI G. S. REDDI :  
SHRIMATI B. RADHABAI :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state ;

(a) the actual quantity of flue curved Virginia tobacco and country tobacco accumulated in the country at present and the steps being taken to clear the stocks ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have approved the barter deal proposal of a Bombay firm, which has in no way any connection with the Tobacco trade and rejected the proposal made by the firm which is having surplus stocks ; and

(c) whether Government are considering any arrangements for the import of tractors against the export of surplus tobacco to foreign countries on bilateral basis ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) The accumulated stocks at present have been estimated at about 9 million kilograms for flue cured virginia tobacco and one million kilograms for country tobacco respectively. With a view to clear these stocks through exports, the following measures have been recently taken :—

- (i) Minimum export prices have been reduced by 20% and 25% for lower grades of flue cured virginia tobacco of the 1968 and earlier crops respectively.

(ii) A barter deal worth Rs.1.5 crores for export of lower grades of flue cured virginia tobacco has been approved.

(iii) A tobacco delegation was sent to European countries in December, 1968 to explore new markets.

(b) A barter proposal of a Bombay firm which is not a regular dealer of tobacco has been approved. At that time, there were no other proposals for export of tobacco under barter.

(c) No, Sir.

#### Export of Jute goods to European common Market Countries

5813. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :  
SHRI HIMATSINGKA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether negotiations have of late been held with the European Common Market countries regarding export of carpet backings and other jute goods ;

(b) If so, the proposals and counter proposals made in this connection ;

(c) the outcome of the negotiations ; and

(d) the latest prospects of jute goods exports to the E.C.M. during the year 1969-70 and how it compares with the corresponding figures for the years 1967-68 and 1968-69 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). Since the negotiations are currently in progress, it will not be in the public interest to disclose their details at this stage.

(d) Exports of jute goods during 1967-68 and 1968-69 (for 9 months from April to December 1968) were as under :—