

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Their report is under consideration.

Foreign Official Dignitaries' Visits to India

2678. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :
SHRI GANESH GHOSH :
SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of foreign official dignitaries who visited India during the last twenty-one months ; and

(b) the total amount spent on them ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected.

Cash Subsidies to Exporters of Non-Traditional Items

2679. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI :
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

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

(a) whether Government offered increased cash subsidies to exporters of non-traditional items in the years 1967-68 and 1968-69 ;

(b) if so, the amount offered so far ; and

(c) to what extent his has helped in the increased exports of non-traditional items, item-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI RAM SEWAK CHOWDHARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Higher rates of Cash Assistance were allowed on selected non-traditional export products subject to certain conditions. Increases in the Cash assistance rates were of the order of 5% and 10% of f. o. b. export value.

(c) The increased assistance to exports as well as various other measures have resulted in increases in the exports of engi-

neering goods, excluding prime iron and steel from Rs. 27.99 crores during April, 1967 to January, 1968, to Rs. 69.89 crores during April, 1968 to January, 1969 ; the exports of chemicals and allied products from Rs. 14.88 crores during April—November, 1967 to Rs. 21.69 crores during April—November, 1968.

Sona Shops

2680. SHRIMATI ILA PALCHOU-
DHURI :
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
DR. SUSHILA NAYAR :
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :

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

(a) the total annual sales and expenditure incurred on the five retail shops known as 'Sona' set up in New York, Boston, Paris, Nairobi and Montreal, separately, since they were set up ;

(b) whether it is a fact that more such shops are proposed to be opened in other countries ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) when they are likely to be set up ; and

(e) the total initial estimated expenditure likely to be incurred and capital, in the shape of goods, set up, etc. to be invested ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI RAM SEWAK CHOWDHARY) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-308/69*].

(b) to (e). The question of opening more such shops is under examination. Details regarding location, expenditure, etc. have yet to be worked out.

Scarcity of Dyeing and Bleaching Materials

2681. SHRI NAMBIAR :
SHRI K. RAMANI :
SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :
SHRI UMANATH :

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

(a) whether Government have received

representations from the textile dyers, printers and bleachers of Tirupur town, Coimbatore regarding the scarcity of dyeing and bleaching materials ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the scarcity ; and

(c) whether Government propose to give import licences to the actual users ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The following steps have been taken :—

- (i) A. U. Provision for import of Sodium Nitrite has been made
- (ii) Ad-hoc import of 1000 tonnes of Hydrosulphite of Soda and 200 tonnes of Sodium Sulphoylate is being allowed through the S.T.C.

Production of Synthetic Fibre and Superfine Cloth

2682. **SHRI MAHARAJ SINGH BHARATI :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of large scale production of synthetic fibre and superfine cloth, there is a crisis in the mills manufacturing coarse and medium cloth as their demand has gone down and a number of mills have closed ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indian Trade Delegations sent Abroad

2683. **DR. SUSHILA NAYAR :**
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
SHRI GADILINGANA
GOWD :
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH
SHASTRI :

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

(a) the number of trade delegations sent abroad during the last two years ;

(b) the names of the countries visited by those delegations ;

(c) the amount spent by each delegation ; and

(d) the result achieved thereby ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-309/69*].

(d) Delegations are sent abroad to negotiate/conclude/extend and/or review the trade agreements/arrangements with foreign countries and to survey the markets and negotiate business deals. They have helped to diversify our trade and promote our exports.

इजराइल के साथ व्यापार सम्बन्ध

2684. **श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री :** क्या वदेशिक व्यापार तथा पूर्ति मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या समाचारपत्रों में प्रकाशित इस समाचार की और सरकार का ध्यान दिलाया गया है कि इजराइल भारत के साथ व्यापार सम्बन्ध स्थापित करने का इच्छुक है और इजराइल में भारतीय वस्तुओं के निर्यात की काफी गुंजाइश है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस बारे में सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

वदेशिक व्यापार तथा पूर्ति मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री चौधरी राम सेवक) : (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) इजराइल के साथ व्यापार सम्बन्ध पर कोई विशेष प्रतिबन्ध नहीं है और इजराइल के किसी विशिष्ट प्रस्ताव पर भारतीय पक्षों द्वारा साधारण रूप में विचार किया जा सकता है ।

Tariff Commission on man-made Fibre and Yarn Industry

2685. **SHRI HARDAYAL**
DEVGUN :