

Export of Manganese Ore

2810. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation which visited the West European countries recently has been able to get new orders for the exports of manganese ore ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the existing export duty on it is proving a hardship to our export drive ; and

(d) if so, whether it is proposed to reduce the export duty for increasing the exports and if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) The delegation secured orders for 1.41 lakh tonnes of manganese ore of different grades for shipment in 1969 to West European countries.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Export of Manganese Ore

2811. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India can increase her manganese ore exports by bringing about beneficiation of the ore ;

(b) the efforts made to study and obtain foreign plant practices ; and

(c) whether blending of ores from different areas is being followed to reduce phosphorous content to acceptable percentage for export purposes and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Not necessarily.

(b) A sub-committee of the Mineral Ore Export Advisory Committee, that has studied the beneficiation practices adopted in U. S. S. R., Brazil, Cuba, U. S. A., Gabon etc., is of the opinion that Indian ores are more complex and require more

elaborate beneficiation techniques, than adopted in these countries.

(c) Yes, Sir. Manganese ores of High and Low Phosphorous from different areas are suitably blended prior to export to meet the requirements of foreign buyers.

M/s Tata Engineering and Locomotives Co. Ltd.

2812. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Tata Engineering and Locomotives Co. Ltd., have recently secured an order for the supply of nine pieces of earth moving equipment from the Government of Ceylon to the tune of Rs. 3.8 millions ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to sell such engineering items manufactured in India to other developing countries through their commercial and trade representatives attached to various embassies and High Commissions ; and

(c) the export orders that have materialised through their efforts during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir. An order for 9 units of Tata P & H Roller Crane Accessories and parts valued at Rs 37.58 lakhs has been received from Ceylon by M/s Tata Engineering and Locomotives of India.

(b) and (c) The Commercial/Trade Representatives of the Government of India in foreign countries are kept informed of India's developing export capabilities. These representatives exert considerable efforts and influence in procurement of orders particularly when an importer happens to be a Government. It is, however, not possible to make any assessment of the value of orders procured through the exclusive effort of these representatives.

India Properties in Pakistan

2813. SHRI S. R. DAMANI :

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken