

Manufacture of Aluminium Alloy Sheets for Aircraft

9586. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire aluminium alloy sheets required for aeroplane manufacture have to be imported ;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to manufacture the same in this country either singly or in collaboration with foreign firms ; and

(c) whether any progress has been made in the direction of developing research in aeronautical research establishments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). It is not a fact that the entire aluminium alloy sheets required for the manufacture of aeroplanes have to be imported. Aluminum clad/aluminium alloy sheets, which constitute substantial portion of the aluminium alloy sheets, required for the manufacture of aircraft are produced in the country by Indian Aluminium Company Limited since 1965-66. Other types of aluminium alloy sheets are also required for the manufacture of aircraft but their indigenous manufacture will not be in economical proposition, because the types and sizes in which alloy sheets are required are large in number and the requirements in respect of each individual type/size are very small.

(c) Some progress has been achieved in developing certain Aluminium alloys at a metallurgical laboratory of the Defence Research and Development Organisation.

Radioactive Minerals in U. P.

9587. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4137 on the 11th December, 1968 regarding radioactive minerals in U. P. and state :

(a) whether the surveys have since been undertaken by the Government ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b). Surveys are still in progress.

Meeting with the Foreign Minister of Nepal

9588. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :
SHRI HIMATSINGKA :
SHRI VALMIKI CHOU-
DHURY :

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

(a) whether the Nepalese Foreign Minister recently paid a visit to the capital and other parts of the country and had talks with the Ministers and Government officials on the various bilateral issues between India and Nepal ;

(b) if so, the issues which were discussed with him ;

(c) whether the problems relating to Indo-Nepal Trade particularly the problems posed by Indian entrepreneurs who have set up industries in Nepal and are smuggling their products into India and other activities of the Indian business involving smuggling and marketing of goods brought in from Nepal, were also discussed with him ; and

(d) if so, the reactions of Government thereto and outcome of the talks on other issues ?

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

(b) and (c). Many matters of mutual interest and common concern for both

countries were discussed. In particular the problems connected with the implementation of the Indo-Nepal Agreement of November, 1968, including activities of Indian businessmen and smuggling of third country goods across the Indo-Nepal border were, touched upon.

(d) It has been agreed that these matters will be discussed further when the Foreign Minister visits Kathmandu, the meeting of the Inter-Governmental Committee will be expedited, and every effort will be made to implement the agreements reached in November last.

Import Licences for Betelnuts

9589. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the number import licences issued for the import of betelnuts to the importers of Orissa ; and

(b) the quantity imported by them in the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 with the value thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). Import of betelnuts is not allowed since April, 1965.

Export of Tea

9590. SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-DHURY :
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH SHASTRI ;
SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF ;

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

(a) whether a delegation from Japan visited India in February, 1969 and studied the various aspects of India's Tea Industry by visiting tea plantations and research centres ;

(b) whether it is a fact that black tea is getting popularity in Japan ;

(c) the value of tea exported during 1968 ;

(d) whether Government propose to give some special facilities for the export of tea ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(c) Tea valued at 4973 thousand rupees was exported from India to Japan during 1968.

(d) and (e). Necessary fiscal reliefs for tea exports have been announced in the budget proposals. No further measures are being considered yet.

Haj Pilgrims from Madhya Pradesh

9591. SHRI G. C. DIXIT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Haj Pilgrims from Madhya Pradesh authorised by the Government of India for the Haj travel this year ;

(b) how many of these pilgrims belong to East Nimar District ; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange allotted for Haj travel this year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) On the basis of the State's Muslim population, Madhya Pradesh was authorised to send 397 Haj pilgrims this year ;

(b) 19.

(c) Rs. 2,36,25,000 (in foreign exchange).