

of family allotment calculated on the basis of total amount remitted by personnel in each rank whose Individual Running Ledger Accounts are available, is, therefore, considered to be fair.

(iii) The Government decision to restore the forfeited pay and allowances of ex-INA personnel at this distance of time is by itself a concession and should be viewed as such while considering the whole issue.

• **Purchase of Manganese Ore by M.M.T.C.**

6620. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation is now making most of its purchases of manganese ore from a middle man, who has no mine of his own; and

(b) the average rate at which the purchases are being made ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Manganese Ore to Czechoslovakia and Rumania

6621. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be please to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has entered into a fresh contract recently with Czechoslovakia and Rumania for exporting 1,20,000 tonnes of manganese ore to these countries;

(b) whether Government are aware that MMTC is canalising all these exports through one Ram Bahadur Thakur and Co., who is also not a producer;

(c) if so, the quantity of manganese ore canalised through this firm during the last six months; and

(d) the reasons for favouring this particular firm when the mines of many Producers have remained closed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) to (d) During the last 6 months following sales for manganese ore were finalised by M.M.T.C. through M/s. Ram Bahadur Thakur :-

S. No.	Quantity Tonnes	Country of Export
1	1,00,000	Czechoslovakia
2	20,000	Rumania
3	10,000	Korea

M/s. Ram Bahadur Thakur are mine-owner-cum-exporter of Manganese ore. This party has been regularly exporting manganese ore to Czechoslovakia since 1963.

Exports of Manganese ore were canalised through M.M.T.C. with effect from 12th July, 1965. Prior to canalisation, M/s. Ram Bahadur Thakur Negotiated a three year contract with M/s. Metalimex, Praha, on 9th July, 1965. The contract being for substantial quantities, the M.M.T.C. approved of the same for three years. Earlier during this year, Czechoslovak Trade Representation in New Delhi addressed a letter to M.M.T.C stating that M/s. Metalimex have entered into a contract for purchase of Manganese ore during 1969, supplies against which as usual must come only from M/s. Ram Bahadur Thakur. On 31st January, 1969, M/s. Metalimex forwarded through M/s. Ram Bahadur Thakur an addendum to the contract concluded on 9.7.1965 which covered their requirements for 1969. Having regard to the price offered, the prevailing market conditions in the international market for manganese ore, and the policy to respect consumer preference in regard to source of supply, the Corporation has accepted the sale for the year 1969.

In regard to the Rumania contract, the matter is being looked into and statement in regard to it will in due course be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Textiles to Britain

6622. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :
 ✓ SHRI MADHU LIMAYE :
 SHRI D. N. PADODIA :
 SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :

SHRI PRAKASHVIR SHASTRI:
SHRI R.K. SINHA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Britain is going to impose a 15 per cent tariff on the textile goods imported into Britain from the Commonwealth countries;

(b) if so, whether it is going to affect India's textile exports to Britain;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether any representation has been made to the British Government and if so, the reaction of British Government thereto; and

(e) the quantity and value of imports by Britain during the years 1967-68 and 1968-69 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) to (d). There have been reports in the Press that the Textile Council of the U.K. has, in its report submitted to U.K. Government in March, 1969, recommended imposition of 15% of levy on all textiles imported into U.K. from Commonwealth countries. Full details have been asked for and whatever action is considered necessary on a study of the details, will be taken.

(e) The value of exports of cotton textiles from India to U.K. was Rs. 30.56 crores during the year 1967-68 and Rs. 20.38 crores from April, 1968—December, 1968. As export statistics in respect of a number of items of textiles like garments, hosiery and other manufactures is available only in value, it is not possible to indicate the quantity of exports.

Talks with Mangolian Delegation

6623. **SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Mangolian delegation visited India recently ; and

(b) if so, the nature of discussions held and the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. A delegation from the Foreign Ministry of the Mongolian People's Republic visited India between 31st March and 5th April, 1969.

(b) The delegation exchanged views with the Ministry of External Affairs on the current international situation and matters of mutual interest. A copy of the joint statement issued at the conclusion of the visit of the delegation is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-781/69.]

Sale of Foreign Car by S.T.C.

6624. **SHRI P. C. ADICHAN :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Mercedes Benz 250 model fetched a fabulous price at a recent auction sale conducted by the State Trading Corporation, and if so, how much;

(b) whether this sale was unique in many respects, particularly in so far as this time was concerned the State Trading Corporation fixed a minimum price of Rs. 1.5 lakhs and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the cars which fetched more than Rs. 1 lakh during 1968-69 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) At a recent auction held by the State Trading Corporation, a Mercedes Benz 250 fetched a price of Rs. 1,70,550.

(b) This was the first occasion that a single car auction was held by S.T.C. A minimum price of Rs. 1.5 lakhs was indicated by the Corporation to avoid random tendering and to create a sustained interest in the purchase of rare cars.

(c) During 1968-69 four Mercedes Benz cars were each sold at prices exceeding rupees one lakh. They were one Mercedes Benz 220S, two Mercedes Benz 230S and one Mercedes Benz 250 S.