

(b) whether Government are also aware that best raw material is available in Bharatpur for the purpose of this industry;

(c) whether the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun has ascertained the potentiality of the raw material available there;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government are also aware that this industry could be a very big foreign exchange earner; and

(f) if so, the steps Government propose to take to develop and modernise this industry soon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED): (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey of Laccadives

1034. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration for conducting a survey of Laccadives with view to find mineral wealth there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Exploration for limestone and phosphate was carried out in Laccadives by the Geological Survey of India during 1963-64. The investigations carried out so far have revealed the presence of a small deposit of phosphate, and high grade limestone deposits having an inferred reserve of about 2,000 million tonnes. The survey of off-shore areas has indicated a potential reserve of 4.6 million tonnes of calcareous sediments in Karavatti Lagoon and 11,00 million tonnes in Kalpeni Lagoon. Further work in these areas is in progress.

Import of Television sets

1036. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the landed value of television sets imported from Japan is less than that of sets imported from Hungary, Ireland and Yugoslavia, but the number of sets imported from Japan is less than that of sets imported from the aforesaid countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons for importing lesser numbers of television sets from Japan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b). The Television sets imported from Japan were with 16" screen whereas those imported from Hungary, Ireland and Yugoslavia have 23" screens. Therefore, there cannot be any comparison of their landed costs. However, the Japanese sets were allowed to be imported by an Indian national from Africa on his repatriation as part of his stock in trade and as this was limited, only the number of Japanese sets available with him were allowed to be imported.

Small-Scale Industries in Tanjore and Ramanathapuram

1037. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there exists ample scope for the development of small-scale industries in Tanjore and Ramanathapuram towns;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted by Small Industries Service Institute; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE