

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

(b) With concerted efforts in the fields of production, consumption and exports it is hoped to increase the exports of non-traditional goods further.

(c) A list showing the non-traditional goods which have registered decreases during 1968-69 compared to 1967-68 is as follows:

1. Sugar
2. Meat and Meat-products
3. Animal casings
4. Fish in air-tight containers
5. Coir-carepts and floor rugs
6. Cordage, cable, rope and twine of jute.
7. Finished Leather
8. extiles hand printed
9. Tobacco manufactures.

Note: Items which were not figuring prominently in our exports at the start of the First Five Year Plan have been taken to be as non-traditional exports.

(d) Details of the export promotion measures taken will be seen (i) in the reply given on 18-2-69 to Unstarred Question No. 182 and (ii) in the statement implementing the assurance to Unstarred Question No. 3592 dated 19-3-69, copies of which have already been submitted to the Dept. of Parliamentary Affairs.

U.S./Soviet Draft Treaty on Sea Bed

4154. **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Government have presented a draft treaty on Sea-bed at the Geneva Disarmament Conference;

(b) if so, the main features of the U.S. draft;

(c) how it compares with the Soviet draft proposals presented a few months back; and

(d) India's attitude towards the U.S. draft treaty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The texts of the two draft treaties are placed on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-1737/69].

(d) The Government are in favour of the Sea-bed and the Ocean Floor being used exclusively for peaceful purposes. The disarmament aspects of this question are now under negotiation with a view to reaching agreement on the text of a draft treaty that will be acceptable to all members of the Disarmament Committee.

Purchase of Urea from Japan

4155. **SHI S. K. TAPURIAH:** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is some difficulty in purchasing urea from Japan against cash payments;

(b) if so, whether the price to be paid will be higher; and

(c) the total loss on this account?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) There is no proposal at present to purchase urea from Japan against cash payment, i.e. free resources.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Import of Jute

4156. **SHRI SITARAM KESRI:** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jute Import Clearance Committee has allowed the import of 6.24 lakh bales of fibre;

(b) whether the Committee have

also decided the terms, etc. for the import of fibre; and

(c) if so, how far the import of jute is likely to help the jute industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) Yes, Sir. The Jute Import Clearance Committee has approved import of 6.25 lakh bales of fibre.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The import of jute is likely to fill partially the gap between demand and supply.

Tarapore Atomic Power Plant

4157. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that owing to the frequent breakdowns at the Tarapore Atomic Power Station, production of power is adversely affected resulting in dislocation of important installations both in private and public sectors; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) The Tarapore Atomic Power Station has not yet been turned over for commercial operation. Before such turnover, a series of tests have to be undertaken intermittently at different power levels. The recent interruption of power occurred due to break down in the switchyard and not in the Power Station.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of new establishments of Electronic components

4158. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given

to Unstarred Question No. 1198 on the 26th February, 1969 and state:

(a) the number of applications received for setting up of new establishments of electronic components;

(b) whether Government have considered these applications;

(c) if so, the number of new licences to be given; and

(d) the names of firms which have been accepted for the grant of licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) to (d). In response to an invitation sent to entrepreneurs, 123 applications have been received for setting up additional capacity for manufacture of electronic components, in the organised sector. These are both from existing manufacturers and those who would set up new establishments. The applications are under consideration.

Information service of India

4159. SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to improve the morale and functioning of the Information Service of India;

(b) whether any special team has undertaken a probe into the working of the Information Service of India;

(c) if not whether Government propose to undertake it now; and

(d) whether Government propose to set up a Parliamentary Committee to go into the entire functioning of the Information Service of India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) There has been a steady improvement in the conditions of service of these officers, who originally entered the Service on cost-