

OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (e). The electronics industry is of pervasive importance. Production in this field has to be encouraged wherever there is the necessary capacity.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Computers

4918. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allowed the import of Computers by several Companies ;

(b) whether conditions have been laid down that these firms will have to export machinery worth twice the cost of computer within two years ; and

(c) the foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom and how the import of such computer would help our industry.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). Government have received some proposals, for allowing import of computers, for the development of computer "software" primarily for export. These proposals are under consideration. Wherever such import of computers is permitted, the importer will have to guarantee a minimum export of "software" of sizeable value over a period of years in order to earn more than the foreign exchange expended on the computer import. No import of computers has been permitted so far for this purpose.

Exports by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation

4919. SHRI H. AJMAL KHAN : Will

the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the total exports by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation as today for the last two years ;

(b) what is the likely export target of the M. M. T. C. for the coming year ; and

(c) whether this target is likely to be achieved ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) The total exports made by M. M. T. C. during the last 2 years were as follows :

1968-69	Rs. 80.2 crores
1969-70	Rs. 90.2 crores

(b) Target for exports during 1970-71 is Rs. 125 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Decline in Prices of Products of Plantation Industry

4920. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a fall in the prices of the products of the plantation industry this year ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b). There has been no fall in the price of tea, coffee and cardamom during 1970 as compared to the price in 1969. There has however, been a slight fall in the price of rubber.

Mode of Selection of workers in Slul Project (Himachal Pradesh)

4921. SHRI VIKRAM CHAND MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of IRR-