

the Company for the import of 2500 rolled steel tyres. The Company has also approached the Government of India for release of foreign exchange to the value of about Rs. 3 lakhs for the import of Switch points. This request is under consideration.

Reduction of economic concentration in Companies

5297. SHRI LOBO PRABHU : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to reduce economic concentration by limiting individual holdings in companies and through taxation, instead of giving preference to small scale industries, which lack the economics of scale ; and

(b) if so, how this is proposed to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). Government experts that, by virtue of the operation of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, the latest Industrial Licensing Policy and the taxation measures already introduced in the last Budget, concentration of economic power is likely to be controlled.

Medical Examination of Seamen in Goa

5298. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what are the Centres where medical examination of Seamen is being conducted ;

(b) whether the Goa Seamen's Association has requested Government to allow medical examination of seamen in Goa ;

(c) if so, whether Government have accepted this request ; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the Dean of the Goa Medical College has agreed to have the medical examination of seamen conducted in the Goa Medical College ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH) : (a) At present, medical examination of seamen is conducted at

Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Visakhapatnam, Cochin and Rajkot Ports.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The question of appointing the Dean of the Goa Medical College as prescribed authority for conducting medical examination of seamen is being re-examined in consultation with the other Ministries concerned.

Decline in Traffic Handled by Bombay port since 1966-67

5299. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a steady decline in the total traffic handled by the Bombay port since 1966-67 ;

(b) if so, the figures of total cargo handled annually by the Bombay Port, with break up of export and import cargo ;

(c) the reason for this decline in cargo ; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) : (a) Yes.

(b) The total import and export cargo handled by the Bombay Port Trust during the years 1966-67 to 1969-70 was as under :—

| Year | Imports | Exports | Total |
|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|
| | | | (In thousand tonnes) |
| 1966-67 | 13,227 | 5,039 | 18,266 |
| 1967-68 | 12,444 | 4,521 | 16,965 |
| 1968-69 | 12,096 | 4,309 | 16,405 |
| 1969-70 | 11,434 | 3,601 | 15,035 |

(c) and (d). The decline in imports was mainly attributable to the rigorous import substitution and increased indigenous production, particularly due to considerable reduction in the import of feedgrains, fertilizers and fertilizer feed stock which are among the major imports. As regards exports, the port traffic reflects broadly the trade trends in the country. However, the Bombay Port Trust are in touch with the various import and export interests to see how far the traffic through Bombay Port can be stepped up.