

(2) Thirty-sixth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Committee on Central Inland Water Transport Corporation.

12.33 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. IMPORT AND EXPORT POLICY FOR 1979-80

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Sir, hon. Members are aware, that in the period April, 1978—March, 1979, a substantial revision of the import policy and the connected procedures was made compared to the previous three decades. I am happy to say that the policy currently in force is in tune with the national objectives of increasing agricultural and industrial production with adequate protection to producers, building up infra-structure and technology, generating employment and making available essential goods for mass consumption.

2. While making the statement in the House on 3rd April, 1978, when I announced our trade policies and procedures for the current year, I had emphasised the need to impart stability to the policy. This has been our approach in formulating the policy for the coming year also. The representations received by Government in regard to the new policy have, by and large, suggested further simplification of the existing procedures, provision of adequate protection to our industry and agriculture and extension of increased facilities for export production. Furthermore, the new dimension given to the policy in the current year has necessitated a review of the arrangements made for giving interpretation and clarifications to the import policy, particularly in regard to the items for import under Open General Licence.

3. In order that adequate and careful consideration is given to the various suggestions and representations made and, as stated earlier, with a view to providing better stability to our import policy, Government has decided to announce the new import policy on 1st May, 1979.

4. To assist the continuance of our production and foreign trade in this period, it has been decided that:—

(i) The provisions of the current policy for the import of items under Open General Licence which expire on 31st March, 1979 will be extended upto 30th April, 1979;

(ii) All exports made upto 30th April, 1979 will qualify for Import Replenishment Licences in terms of the current policy;

(iii) Advance Licences will continue to be granted upto 30th April, 1979, in accordance with the current policy;

(iv) The existing provisions for the import of emergency spares will continue;

(v) Canalising agencies will continue to supply the respective items in accordance with the earlier registrations; and

(vi) Persons, who need to import any requirements under extraordinary circumstances during this period, may apply to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi.

A suitable Public Notice incorporating the above decisions is being issued separately.

5. So far as exports are concerned, many of the items are not under control and can be freely exported. However, in respect of those which would be subject to Export Control, a Public Notice is being issued separately, setting out the itemwise policies applic-

[Shri Mohan Dharia]

able from today upto March 31, 1980. Some of its salient features are:—

(a) Barytes stands fully canalised through the MMTC;

(b) Export of Video taped cinema films including cassettes stands canalised through the Indian Motion Pictures Export Corporation;

(c) Kyanite with alumina content of 50 per cent and above is banned for export;

(d) As a corollary to the ban imposed on the export of silver recently, exports of silver salts and chemicals have been banned. Manufactured articles of silver will be allowed for export only in substantially value added form and subject to suitable conditions.

(e) Natural rubber and rosewood in log and sawn form are banned for export;

(f) Streptomycin formulations are banned for export having regard to the domestic demand and indigenous production;

(g) Export of vintage cars will be allowed, on merits; and

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: So far as vintage cars are concerned, why not export all of them? What do you do with them? What developmental work is done by them? It is a rich man's folly.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: If interruptions are allowed, I would also like to ask some questions.

MR. SPEAKER: That may not be replied to.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: He will reply outside.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: We shall discuss it at the time of our Demands.

(h) In the case of meat, arrangements are being made before the end of June 1979 to see that animals required for the purpose are available to the exporters only through designated State agencies. In the meanwhile, exporters will purchase meat from the metropolitan mandis only after the daily local needs are fully met.

6. The new rates of cash compensatory support for selected export products applicable from 1st April, 1979 onwards are also being announced separately.

For agricultural products we have evolved several mechanisms so that we should be in a position to help the producers to have their export, taking into account all the domestic needs.

12.40 hrs.

SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT)* BILL

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I introduce the Bill.

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