

years 1987-88 to 1990-91 was not the lowest among the 14 major States.

(c) The Ninth Finance Commission in its Second Report has estimated the per capita deficit in the overall revenue account of Rajasthan for 1990-95 to be the highest among the deficit States.

(d) The Government of Rajasthan have requested for a special long-term loan of Rs. 140 crores to partly cover the overall revenue account gap for 1990-91 and to enable them to raise the level of social services.

(e) The matter is under consideration.

Supply of Iron and Steel to Traders

*437. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI
NAVINCHANDRA
MEHTA:

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNI-
HOTRI:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Iron and Steel Trade Association has requested Government to earmark a certain percentage of quota of procurement of iron and steel products for traders from the stock yard of major producers of iron and steel; and

(b) if so, the details including the action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main demands are as follows:—

(i) At least 25% of the production of the integrated steel plants be allotted to the trade.

(ii) All categories and sizes be given to the trade throughout the year.

(iii) Indents to be registered from both actual users and trade.

(iv) Sale of materials to be made on commercial basis.

(v) Imports should be allowed to the trade.

(vi) Recognition and status to the trade in the JPC guidelines.

(vii) Steel Consumers Council be replaced by the Iron and Steel Advisory Council, with trade representation along with others.

It has been decided to invite the Association to regional meetings held from time to time by the Development Commissioner, Iron & Steel and Steel Ministry Officers.

[English]

Tax Free Bonds for Implementation of Sardar Sarovar Project

*438. SHRI CHANDUBHAI
DESHMUKH:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has requested Union Government to permit them to issue tax free bonds for implementation of Sardar Sarovar Project; and

(b) if so, whether Union Government has granted the permission; and

(c) if not, when the said permission will be granted?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir. The present scheme of public sector bonds is confined to Central Public Sector Undertakings.

(c) Does not arise.