

and the value of imports from the USSR into India during 1987-88, 1988-89, and 1989-90 is as given below:—

(In Rs. crores)

	1987-88 (Provisional)	1988-89 (Provisional)	1989-90 (Provisional)
Exports to the USSR . . .	1970.86	2606.27	4462.97
Imports from the USSR . . .	2041.00	1964.75	3079.72
Total Trade Turnover . . .	4011.86	4571.02	7562.69

Source: DGCIS, Calcutta.

Import figures adjusted to include crude supplies.

(b) The Indo-Soviet Trade Protocols are concluded on a calendar year basis. The trade protocol for 1991 is not yet concluded as the same is expected to be finalised in the last quarter of this year.

(c) Over the years, the basket of goods traded has been expanded by not only enhancing the provisions for the existing items but also by adding new items. To promote contacts, visits of business delegations, participation in exhibitions, organisations of seminars and buyer-seller meets, etc. have been encouraged. As imports generate rupee funds for financing exports arising from the balanced rupee trading system with the USSR, the imports from that country are also being encouraged. Apart from conventional exchange of trade, new forms of economic cooperation have also been encouraged. There is no discrimination between exports to the General Currency Area and to the Rupee Payment Area.

Commercial Information by Indian Mission Abroad

5127. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints have been received from the leading industrialists and exporters

that the commercial information supplied by the Indian Missions abroad is of very routine nature and thus of very little value in promoting exports from India;

(b) if so, the reasons for the poor performance of our Missions abroad;

(c) whether Government propose to review the working of those Missions with a view to improve their working for promoting India's exports and earning more foreign exchange; and

(d) if so, the details of action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Commerce had organised conferences of our commercial representatives abroad. In such conferences wide ranging discussions on India's foreign trade were discussed among other suggestions to make our commercial representation as an instrument of building up of our country's image. Training Programmes are organised for commercial representatives in India by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.