

signed with Pakistan. Of course, some talks have been held and if you want to have some information in that regard, I can give it to you. But the position remains the same. However, during the course of his visit to Pakistan, our Finance Minister had held extensive talks on trade. It is just possible that based on those talks, some trade agreement can be signed in future, but no agreement has been signed so far.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister the goods which used to be exported to Pakistan heretofore and what impact they had on balance of payments and balance of trade ?

[English]

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : I would like to explain that among items we have exported there are items like tea, iron ore and beedi leaves, aluminium phosphide tablets, tamarind, refractory bricks, machinery and transport equipment. Our exports from Pakistan had been urea, rock salt, cotton seeds, etc.

Then, so far as the question of balance is concerned, it is true that the balance had been adverse.

MR. SPEAKER : There is too much of talking on this side, right side.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : If my hon. friend wants to know, in 1984-85 the exports were to the tune of Rs. 12.91 crores while the imports from Pakistan were to the tune of Rs. 15.75 crores; the adverse balance was of Rs. 2.84 crores, so far as India is concerned.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : The talks that were held between the Finance Ministers of India and Pakistan on 27th January.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Not on 27th January, talks were held from 8th to 10th.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : What decision was taken after those talks ? Will the hon. Minister kindly state whether talks would be held again ;

MR. SPEAKER : Who else will hold the talks ?.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Minutes, of course, were recorded at the meeting that has taken place in which we have the Government of Pakistan put up a list of certain items for purposes of exports from this country and imports to that country. It was also agreed that a team of senior officers from Pakistan would visit India in February, 1986. It is likely that the team of officers may visit shortly. Pakistan, of course, announced during this visit private sector trading in certain items. But that is only a matter which has got to be gone into in a little detail. For other items, trade through State organisations will have to continue. It was agreed that a joint business council would be set up between FICCI and the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry. It was also agreed to identify areas for setting up joint ventures in India and in Pakistan. It was also agreed between two countries that their trade would be conducted on the basis of GATT obligations.

Need for Streamlining the procedures for Clearance of Foreign Technical Collaboration

*194. **SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the chances of getting new foreign technical collaborations are getting adversely affected due to the cumbersome procedures for clearance of payments of royalties, lumpsum amounts, engineering fees, etc. and the conditions like getting no-objection certificates from income-tax authorities and getting them vetted by the Reserve Bank of India ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to streamline these procedures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a)

Statement

(a) and (b) The number of foreign collaborations approved during the past five years is as under :—

1981	=	389
1982	=	590
1983	=	673
1984	=	752
1985	=	1024

It will be seen that over the years there has been an uptrend in the number of collaborations approved. However, the tax and exchange control formalities to be observed before remittances under approved collaborations can be effected are constantly kept under review and steps for improvement taken, wherever necessary.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : I am glad to know that the present industrial policy is in favour of inviting more and more foreign collaborations to our country. And I find that in 1985 as many as 1024 collaborations were approved by the Government. May I know as to how many of these collaborations have taken effect? How far the procedures laid down by the Finance Ministry come in the way of entering into foreign collaborations by our entrepreneur? Is there any monitoring cell in the Finance Ministry which coordinates with other Ministries and follows up collaborations till their approval by the Finance Ministry?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : We allow foreign technology on a selective basis in high priority areas like cement, fertiliser, petro-chemicals, electronics, etc. The performance is being monitored. In fact, the Finance Ministry is also taking steps to monitor the performance. The Government has already taken some steps and because of those steps we can say that there is substantial improvement in this area,

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : My question has not been answered. The Finance Ministry has sanctioned so far 1024 collaborations in 1985. I want to know as to how many of these collaborations have taken effect, in other words, how many industries have started running in our country under these collaborations?

of no objection certificate from the Administrative Ministry alone, collaborations are pending for more than 3 years. In the last five years, whatever collaborations the Finance Ministry has cleared, whether those collaborations have now taken effect in our country by running industry or some other forum?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : In the case of composite applications for industrial licence and foreign collaboration, and capital goods import, these are considered by the Project Approval Board which is required to decide within ninety days. Secretary, Industry is Chairing this Board and he is practically reviewing the performance. Finance Secretary is Chairing the Foreign Investment Board and there also steps are taken to see that delay is removed. The SIA, that is, Secretary for the Industrial Approval is supposed to coordinate with all other ministries.

So, it will take time to know the implementation of Foreign Collaboration approval by the Government. RBI conducts periodical surveys in this respect. So, the performance in all the areas is being monitored.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : The hon. Minister replied that clearance is given by the Board within 90 days, and thereafter the hon. Member had asked what action was taken to clear over 1,000 cases which were pending for the last two years and what action was taken against those who did not clear these cases within 90 days?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, I have stated that in the case of composite application only it takes ninety days. In other cases they have to dispose of the applications within sixty-days.

Sale of Cigarettes at Higher Prices

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*195. SHRI RAM BHAGAT
PASWAN :
SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH
CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be