

terms.

(b) World exports, according to GATT's first assessment, increased by 9.8 per cent in 1986, in dollar terms; the exports of all developing countries fell by 9.3 per cent in the same period. India's exports during 1986-87 increased by 15.3 per cent in dollar terms.

(c) Yes, Sir. There was a general decline in the world commodity prices during 1986-87. According to the IMF calculations, the overall index of world prices for non-fuel commodities fell from 76.0 in 1985 to 73.1 in 1986 measured in terms of dollars. This represents a decline of 3.8 per cent in terms of dollars.

(d) A series of initiatives have been taken by the Government to promote exports. These are designed to generate surpluses for exports to induce the production of goods contemporary in technology and competitive in prices and to make the exports profitable.

Misuse of Jonga Army Vehicles in Cantonments

*494. SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a misuse of Jonga Army vehicle by the military officers and their families in Cantonments; and

(b) whether due to the petrol consumption of Jonga for ordinary uses by the military personnel, there has been avoidable wastage in the military expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) and (c). No, Sir. Certain complaints have, however, come to notice through press reports which are being enquired into.

Ban on Import of Second Hand Machinery

*495. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether second hand machinery was allowed to be imported during 1986-87;

(b) if so, the second hand machinery imported during 1984-85 and 1985-86 and the value involved;

(c) through which agency the import of second hand machinery was made;

(d) whether Government have put a ban on the import of second hand machinery and if so, when; and

(e) whether some companies have approached Government to allow them to import second hand machinery; if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Normally import of only those machineries which are not more than 7 years old and which have a residual life of at least 5 years is permitted.

(b) Separate data regarding import of second hand machinery is not maintained. However, the import licences for Capital Goods issued during 1984-85 and 1985-86 for second hand machinery are as given below:-

(Value Rs. in lakhs)

1984-85		1985-86	
No.	Value	No.	Value
183	2502.38	194	4650.66

(c) The import of second hand machinery is made by Actual Users either under OGL or against import licences.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Applications for import of second hand machinery not covered under OGL are considered by the appropriate Capital Goods Committee.

Probe into Unilever Hold on World Tea Trade

*496. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
DR. G. VJAYA RAMA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has started a probe into Unilever's hold on tea trade as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated 30 July, 1987;

(b) if so, whether it would also include Unilever related companies Brooke Bond and Lipton;

(c) if so, whether Chairman of the Sri Lankan Tea Board has written to the Chairman of the Indian Tea Board requesting him to furnish information on the corporate inter-connection between Brooke Bond and Lipton; and

(d) the time by which the probe is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a), (b) and (d). In the last meeting of the inter-Governmental group on tea held under the aegis of FAO in May 1987 in Rome, member countries were apprehensive of the role of certain transnational corporations and therefore requested FAO to undertake an in depth study

on the buying and selling pattern of transnational corporations.

(c) The Sri Lanka Tea Board has requested for certain factual details from the Indian Tea Board.

Central Quota for Allotment of Yarn to States

*497. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Central quota for allotment of yarn to various States;

(b) if so, whether any yarn allotment was made to Maharashtra during the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(c) if so, whether the yarn supplied was quite adequate to meet the States requirements keeping in view the high demands of yarn from powerloom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

SC/ST Officials in Home Ministry

*498. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees and officers in his Ministry, category-wise, and out of them the break-up of employees and officers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) whether there is a backlog of vacancies reserved for the SC/ST in all categories of employees and officers; and