

US business community seeking equal access to Indian Market

*1071. SHRI RAM PRAKASH:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. business community has sought equal access to the Indian market; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) The U.S. Ambassador to India, according to a press report had stated in his speech given at a reception held in his honour by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Bombay on April 9, 1973 that any nation which enjoyed a surplus in its trade with the U.S.A. must expect them now to be actively and concretely concerned to obtain equal access to their market, even as they have equal access to theirs. In this context he stated that the U.S.A. asked for "equal treatment and equal access" to the Indian market.

(b) There are no special restrictions applied by Government of India exclusively affecting imports from the USA. Under the GATT both the USA and India are giving each other 'Most Favoured Nation' treatment.

Financial Aid by India to Neighbouring Countries

*1073. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has given economic aid to some of its neighbours; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries which have received aid from India during the last three years and the details of the aid given?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two statements given the requisite information are placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. I.T 5051/73.]

Economic assistance has been provided for a number of purposes. Broadly, the assistance has been provided for development schemes in various fields, rehabilitation and relief purposes and procurement of industrial goods from India.

धवन अग्रध्ययन दल के प्रतिवेदन के प्रस्तुत होने तक एवरो विमान का प्रयोग बन्द करना

*1074. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या एवरो (एच०एस०-748) विमान के सभी पहलुओं का उच्च स्तरीय परीक्षण करने के लिए बनाये गये धवन अग्रध्ययन दल का प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत किये जाने तक इन विमानों का प्रयोग नहीं किया जायेगा ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री :
(डा० कर्ण सिंह) : जी नहीं ।

Export of items manufactured by small scale industries to Kuwait

*1076. SHRI K. MALLANNA :

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kuwait recently imported a large number of items manufactured by small scale industries in India;

(b) if so, the names of the items, the quantity purchased by Kuwait and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the exports to other Arab countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Products manufactured by our small scale sector figured prominently in the items which were recently exhibited in an Indian Exhibition organised by us in Kuwait from 7th to 17th February, 1973. As a result of this Exhibition, Indian firms are now in the process of receiving orders. The details of all these orders including those placed on small scale sector, have not so far been tabulated.

(c) We are continuously endeavouring to increase our exports to the Arab world. Some of the concrete steps taken are:

(1) Signing of bilateral Trade Arrangements along with connected Payments Arrangements with Arab Republic of Egypt and Sudan.

(2) Signing of an agreement on "Economic and Technical Co-operation" with Iraq on 6th April, 1973.

(3) Participation by the Government and private parties in exhibitions and trade fair organised in the area. In these participations special care is given to project items of our non-traditional exports and also those manufactured by the small scale sector.