

could be taken advantage of by the other country so as to keep the total tea exports from both the countries within the Joint Export Quota.

Construction of Embankment from Baxar to Koilwar

*455. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had suggested the construction of a 60-mile long embankment from Baxar to Koilwar to save land from floods in the Ganga and the Sone;

(b) whether preliminary work on the project has been started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) The Union Minister of Irrigation and Power after inspection of the flood affected areas of Bihar in July, 1971 had suggested that the embankment in a length of 60 miles from Buxar to Koilwar should be constructed on a priority basis for protecting the areas on the right bank of Ganga in Shahabad district.

(b) and (c). The Government of Bihar have informed that investigations for preparation of the scheme are in progress and the scheme report is expected to be ready by the end of June, 1972.

Reorganisation of R P F.

*456. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Protection Force has since been re-organised; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the re-organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) The Railway Protection Force is being re-organised.

(b) The broad outlines of the proposed re-organisation scheme of the Railway Protection Force are—Formation of separate Investigation and Protection Branches, higher percentage of armed personnel, administrative changes at Divisional and Headquarters level and changes in the working methods of the Force.

Increase in Exports to USA during 1971.

*457. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR
SHRI C.T. DIHANDAPANI

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India registered a higher level of exports to the United States during 1971;

(b) if so, the volume of exports during 1971 as compared to 1970; and

(c) the steps taken to further increase the exports to the U.S.A. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Export to U.S.A. of Indian goods in 1971 rose to \$29.2 million (Rs. 246.9 crores) as compared to \$29.1 million (Rs. 223.6 crores) in 1970, showing an increase of \$31 million approximately (Rs. 23.3 crores).

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The overall export performances of various commodities are constantly under review and remedial actions and promotional measures taken wherever necessary. Such steps for export promotion apply to export of those commodities to all destinations and not to any particular country such as U.S.A. However, some of those having a particular bearing on the U.S. market are :

(a) provision of compensatory cash support to certain commodities;

(b) participation in exhibitions/specialised fairs and department store promotions;

- (c) sending sales-cum-study teams;
- (d) market surveys;
- (e) encouraging product development and product adaptation in order to adapt Indian products to the U.S. market;
- (f) inviting foreign businessmen to visit India to enable them to study Indian capabilities;
- (g) obtaining concessions in freight rates by sea and by air and payment of subsidies in certain cases;
- (h) collection of information about floatation of foreign tenders and bringing them to the notice of the intending importers;
- (i) undertaking publicity for Indian goods through Departmental Stores in U.S.A. and other countries and through advertisements in local papers;
- (j) implementing a special plan of exports of selected products by Trade Development Authority.

Investigation into Causes of Delay in Lifting Goods Traffic on Eastern and South Eastern Railways

*458. SHRI K. RAMA KRISHNA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Eastern and South Eastern Railways have failed to lift goods traffic in spite of law and order conditions having improved in West Bengal after the President's rule; and

(b) whether any enquiry has been made into the matter and if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAJIYA): (a) No, Sir, loading on both the Railways started improving from the last quarter of 1971.

(b) Does not arise.

Cauvery River Water Dispute

*459 SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of popular Government having come into being in Mysore now, Government would initiate talks with the State Governments concerned regarding the Cauvery River water dispute; and

(b) if so when?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) and (b). The State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Kerala have gone to the Supreme Court for seeking a declaration to the effect that a dispute has arisen and exists over the distribution of the Cauvery waters and it is the duty of the Central Government to constitute a Tribunal under the Inter State Water Dispute Act, 1956, as already requested by them. The mediation efforts will have to be resumed after the Supreme Court's decision becomes available.

UNCTAD Conference of Santiago, Chile

*460 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India proposes to take any initiative in evolving a common strategy by developing countries for the forthcoming U. N. Conference on Trade and Development at Santiago, Chile; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The developing countries have already evolved their common strategy for the U. N. Conference on Trade and Development now being held in Santiago, Chile. This is embodied in the document "Declaration and Principles of the Action Programme of Lima" adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of '77' held in Lima in November, 1971. India has subscribed to this common position of the