

2. Import of substantial quantity of steel was arranged through Hindustan Steel Ltd. for distribution to engineering exporters. Further imports are envisaged mainly for the major industries.
3. Steps were taken to allocate matching steel against export orders.
4. Exporting units were allowed to import all categories of steel to their full requirements on the basis of confirmed orders.

In addition to the above, following continuing facilities were available :

- (i) Import replenishment at 20% of fob value ;
- (ii) Compensatory support on case to case basis ;
- (iii) Export finance at preferential rate of interest ;
- (iv) Credit facilities for deferred realisation on case to case basis ;
- (v) Facilities of publicity, market survey, sales and study teams, delegations, etc. through the Engineering Export Promotion Council.
- (vi) The management of a major wagon exporting firm which was closed for financial reasons, was taken over by Government and it is expected to fulfil outstanding commitments including export orders.

(b) During the current year, 1971-72, apart from continuing facilities stated above, the following measures have been/are being taken to promote export of wagons :

- (i) A separate Corporation, called the Project and Equipments Corporation of India has been formed in April, 1971, as a subsidiary to the State Trading Corporation with one of its principal function being

export of Railway systems including rolling stock etc.

- (ii) The Projects and Equipments Corporation has started a data bank to collect and classify all relevant information about overseas buyers.
- (iii) Personal contacts with overseas buyers are being established.
- (iv) Foreign buyers delegations are being invited to visit India and see the progress.
- (v) Special imports and other assistance are being allowed to meet standing orders.

Setting up of Tea Corporation

*962. SHRI S. R. DAMANI :

SHRI MULKI RAJ SAINI :

SHRI BRIJ RAJ SINGH-KOTAH :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal regarding conversion of the Tea Board into a Tea Corporation has since been implemented ; and

(b) if so, what is its capital structure, the names of persons on the Board of Directors and the functions expected of it ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The proposal for the conversion of the Tea Board into Tea Corporation has not been accepted. The details of the set up and functions of a Tea Marketing Corporation are being worked out.

Enquiries from Japan and Italy for buying Small Scale Industries Goods

*964. SHRI RAMKANWAR : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any enquiries from Japan and Italy for

buying goods produced by small-scale industries ; and

(b) if so, the types of goods required by them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enquiries from Japan consist mainly of Automobile parts, Sewing Machine parts, bicycle parts and electronics components and some other miscellaneous items.

Enquiries from Italy were for automobile ancillaries only like automotive castings, engine valves, wind screen wipers and electrical equipment for cars.

Law and Order situation in Mysore

*965. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Naxalites have started their activities in Mysore State ; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to maintain law and order in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Except for the appearance of posters containing Maoist slogans, no other Naxalite activities have come to notice in Mysore State. However, the utmost vigilance is being maintained.

Import Licences Racket

*966. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have detected some bogus firms which were illegally utilising a number of import licences for fictitious purposes ; and

(b) if so, the names of those firms and the action taken by Government against the offending firms ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Schemes for Development of Backward States

*975. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have formulated schemes for the coordinated development of the backward States during the current Plan period ; and

(b) if so, the main features of schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Member has presumably in view Assam, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh which have been shown a measure of weightage in the allocation of Central assistance for State plans. The plans of these States keep in view the need for balanced and coordinated development. A Statement laid on the Table of the House shows the outlays made under different heads of development in the plans of these States. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-619/71]. Besides, industrially backward districts in these and other States have been identified. Public sector financial institutions have offered concessions for starting small and medium sized industrial enterprises in these backward districts. These concessions include lower rate of interest and longer amortisation period for the repayment of loans. The names of the districts which have been selected in these 9 States for purposes of these concessions are furnished in Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-619/71]. Further, it has been decided to select two districts each in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan and U.P., and one district each in the remaining States and Union Territories to qualify for an outright grant or