

analysed export of shoes not only to Soviet Union but to all the countries through the STE

Unsatisfactory Role of Leather Industry in World Market

*379 SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state

(a) whether our Leather Industry is not playing satisfactory role in the world markets, and

(b) if so the reasons therefor and the steps Government have taken to explore the markets for leather and leather goods?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) Export performance of our leather industry has been very impressive over the past several years

(b) Does not arise

SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA May I know how this year's export figure compares with the figures for the last two years?

SHRI A C GEORGE In 1971-72 the total earning of foreign exchange from semi-finished leather and leather goods was Rs 986 crores. The semi-finished leather alone accounted for Rs. 84 crores. This year within six months, we have exceeded the total figure of 1971-72. That may be the reason for the small crisis in the finished leather or leather goods industry.

श्री भाषीराम शंकर मन्नी महोदय ने बताया है कि हमारे का आयात ठीक तरह से चल रहा है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो चमड़ा निर्यात किया जाता है, उसमें कितनी किल्ले हैं और उन किल्लों में कौन सा चमड़ा प्रचलित है, जिसकी मन्डी में ज्यादा माग है और जिसकी ज्यादा कीमत मिलती है।

SHRI A C GEORGE About leather exports there are three general categories (1) Raw hides and skins (2) EI tanned and Chrome tanned leather under semi-finished leather and (3) leather goods including shoes and chappals. I will not be able to go into the details of different split-up of leather goods. But this year our performance has been good. About semi-finished leather, that has a ready fetched us more than the total of last year.

Land for Construction of Quarters for the Employees Working in Central Excise and Income-Tax Departments, Patna

380 SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Board of Revenue had sanctioned a sum of Rs 3,50,000 in the year 1964 to purchase land at Patna for the construction of residential quarters for the employees working in the Central Excise and Income-Tax Departments at Patna;

(b) whether the representative of Central Excise and Income-Tax Unions discussed this issue with him on the 19th August 1971; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken until now to purchase the land in question and when the purchasing of the land will be finalised?