

(b) Exports of fabricated mica to Rupee Currency area, during the past few years have been as follows:

Year	Rs. (in lakhs)
1974-75	86
1975-76	89
1976-77	213
1977-78	Not available. as detailed break up is yet to be worked out.

(c) and (d). It has been the endeavour of the Government of India to include in the Trade Plans as much fabricated mica as possible. It is, however not practicable to stipulate a specific proportion for fabricated mica *vis-a-vis* the Trade Plan provisions for mica as a whole.

Setting up of Lac Marketing Board

*924. SHRI RAM KISHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a lac marketing board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). Setting up of a Lac Marketing Board to regulate and control the production of sticklac, the manufacture of seedlac and shellac and the marketing of the same is under consideration of the Government. Final decision in this regard is yet to be taken.

Jurisdiction of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in regard to Audit of Government Companies and the Public Sector Undertakings

8465. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that the Government have under their consideration any proposal to take away the jurisdiction of the Comptroller & Auditor General

of India in regard to audit of the Government Companies and the Public Sector Undertakings and whether they have called views of the Public Sector Undertakings, Corporations and Companies in this regard;

(b) if answer to (a) above be in affirmative to that extent the Parliament and the State Legislatures will be handicapped in exercising their control over Finances of States and the Centre; and

(c) whether Government have examined whether the proposed action will be fully in accord with the letter and spirit of the Indian Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). Government companies are audited at present by Statutory Auditors who are appointed by the Central Government on the advice of the Comptroller & Auditor-General of India (C.&A.G.). Comptroller and Auditor General also issues directions to the Statutory Auditors regarding audit of these companies besides conducting a supplementary or test audit of their accounts. In addition a performance-cum-efficiency audit is also undertaken periodically by the Audit Board under the auspices of Comptroller and Auditor General.

The following suggestions relating to conducting of audit of public enterprises have been received:

(i) Audit of Government Companies should be done by professional auditors. They may be appointed by the Board of Directors out of a panel approved by the Government.

(ii) Efficiency audit of the Government Companies may be conducted periodically by a panel of experts nominated by the Government.

(iii) If considered necessary, in special circumstances, Central Government may perhaps retain the power to ask the Comptroller and