

U.A.R. Trade Delegation

- *108. **Shri K. S. Vidyarthi:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Heerji Bhai:
Shri E. Barua:
Shri Maharaj Singh Bharati:
Shri D. N. Patodia:
Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri A. B. Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether a U.A.R. Trade Delegation visited India in April, 1967 and whether any talks were held on the trade relations between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir. A trade delegation from U.A.R. visited India in April, 1967 to review the trade between India and U.A.R. during 1966-67 and to finalise a trade arrangement for 1967-68.

(b) The main features of the trade arrangement for 1967-68 are:

- (i) The trade exchanges during 1967-68 will be of the order of Rs. 800 million.
- (ii) The main items of imports into India are cotton, rice, rock phosphate and petroleum products.
- (iii) The main items of exports are tea, jute manufactures, tobacco, spices, chemicals, steel, engineering goods etc.

Import of Russian Tractors

- *109. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwat:
Shri Nitraj Singh Chaudhary:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been lodged with the State Trading Corporation that Russian tractors are being supplied at higher rates by the Indian Engineering and Commercial Corporation Pvt. Ltd., Bombay to the agriculturists of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made in this regard and the result thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Trading Corporation is enquiring into the matter.

Textiles Industry

- *110. **Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:**
Shri Virendra Kumar Shah:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to his statement made in Lok Sabha on the 8th April, 1967 and state at what stage the proposal to set up a Special Committee to suggest structural remedies for the chronic problems of the textiles industry stands?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): The matter is under consideration. Some preliminary discussions have taken place.

Perfume-making Plant

- *111. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:**
Dr. Easun Sen:
Shri Dhireswar Kalita:
Shri S. Supakar:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received an offer from a foreign business concern to set up a big perfume-making plant in India;

(b) whether the offer is under active consideration, and if so, its terms and conditions; and

(c) whether the existing restrictions on foreign investment in consumer goods industries are proposed to be lifted for the purpose?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

U.N. Team on Export Production

*112. Shri Manbhai J. Patel:
Shri E. S. Vidyarthi:
Shri S. K. Damani:
Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 190 on the 31st March, 1967 and state:

(a) whether final recommendations of the 7-man U.N. team on export promotion, which visited India in January, 1967, have since been received;

(b) if so, the main features of the report; and

(c) the recommendations which have been accepted by Government?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Selling of Railway Tickets at Black-Market Rates

*113. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Railway Booking Staff and other Railway officials at the stations sell railway tickets at black-market rates; and

(b) if so, the practical steps Government have taken to stop this anti-social practice?

The Minister of Railways (Shri G. M. Ponnappa): (a) A few complaints have been received.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

1. Supervision is strengthened at booking offices, particularly during rush periods to eliminate the possibility of staff conniving at any mal-practices.

2. Surprise checks have been organised by the Special Police Establishment in co-operation with the Railway authorities to curb the corrupt practices in booking of berths and seats in trains. Such checks are conducted independently also by the Vigilance organisations of the Railway Board and the Zonal Railways.

3. At certain important stations, a special squad of Vigilance staff and TTEs in plain clothes are posted at the booking windows during the rush periods to check the activities of unscrupulous elements. The assistance of Police and R.P.F. staff posted at the Booking windows is also sought in this matter.

4. Everyone of the complaints is thoroughly enquired into and severe punishment meted out in proven cases.

Import of Russian Tractors

*114. Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal:
Shri Sukam Chand Kachwal:
Shri Nitinaj Singh Ghoshdary:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no custom or octroi duties are leviable on the sale of agricultural tractors and implements;

(b) if so, whether any complaint has been received by Government indicating that the importers of Russian tractors are charging customs duty and octroi duty on the sale of tractors to cultivators of Madhya Pradesh although no such duties are charged for sale in Maharashtra; and