

(d) and (e). The Minority Boards are already functioning in West Bengal. Reports have also appeared in the Pakistani press from time to time about the establishment and functioning of such Boards in East Pakistan as well.

Supply of Vicker Tanks by U. K.

- * 859. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU :
SHRI N. R. LASKAR :
SHRI R. BARUA :
SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA :
SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :
SHRI BASUMATARI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any deal with U. K. Government for the supply of Vicker tanks has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Free Trade Zone at Kandla

- * 860. SHRI D. N. DEB :
SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK :
SHRI VALMIKI CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a scheme of developing a free trade zone at Kandla in Gujarat ;

(b) whether some difficulties have cropped in the implementation of this scheme;

(c) whether attention of Government has been invited to a report which appeared in the "Times of India" of the 15th January on this subject; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) to (d). The Kandla Free Trade Zone has started functioning and a few units have already commenced productions and exports from the zone. The Scheme has made a definite advance. It is, however, natural that being the first experiment of its type in India, it would take some time before big gains materialise. The Government has seen the report published in the "Times of India" of 15th January, 1969. The "Times of India" has given an account of the working of the zone under a somewhat sensational heading.

Exports of Jute Goods

- * 861. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :
SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTHY :
SHRI HIMATSINGKA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity and value of jute goods exports during the last three years to various countries;

(b) whether there has been progressive decrease in our foreign exchange earnings during the period on account of such exports; and

(c) the efforts, if any, being made by Government to stop this downward trend ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK). (a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Quantity and value of jute goods exports

during the last three years were as under :

| Year | Quantity (000 Tonnes) | Value (Rs. Crores) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1965-66 | 895.6 | 182.71 * |
| 1966-67 | 734.1 | 250.82 |
| 1967-68 | 751.4 | 233.50 |
| 1968-69 (April- Decem- ber) | 504.4 | 159.74 |
| 1967-68 (April- Decem- ber) | 583.1 | 181.45 |

(* Pre-devaluation)

2. The following measures have been taken to step up exports of jute goods :

(a) All possible steps are being taken to increase the production and yield of the required quality and quantity of jute within the country;

(b) with effect from the 1st March, 1969, export duties of jute goods have been reduced or abolished as follows :

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Hessian (other than carpet backing) | : From Rs. 500 to Rs. 200 per tonne. |
| Sacking | : From Rs. 250 to Rs. 150 per tonnes |
| Wool-packs | : From Rs. 250 per tonne to Nil. |
| Cotton bagging | : From Rs. 200 per tonne to Nil. |
| Twist, yarn (other than specialities), rope, twine and other miscellaneous goods. | : From Rs. 250 to Rs. 150 per tonne. |

(c) In order to speed up the pace of modernisation, it has been decided to include the jute industry in the Schedule V

to the Income-tax Act for purposes of higher development rebate.

(d) With a view to encouraging diversification in the jute industry, loan assistance is being given to the mills through the Industrial Finance Corporation.

**Release by Pakistan of
Shri Trilok Chandra**

*862. SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri Trilok Chandra, a Delhi student has been exchanged for a Pakistani spy, Gulzar Hussain Shah; and

(b) if so, the reasons why he was exchanged for a convict for spying and not with any other Pakistani who is under detention ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b) . Shri Gulzar Hussain Shah was convicted for illegal entry and on completion of his sentence, was exchanged for Shri Trilok Chandra. On an earlier occasion Shri Gulzar Hussain Shah had been deported to Pakistan after serving a sentence on spying and other charges.

प्रादेशिक सेना से निकाले गये कर्मचारी

*863. श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या प्रति-रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्रादेशिक सेना में ऐसे नियमित कर्मचारियों की संख्या कितनी है जिन्हें गत तीन वर्षों में नौकरी से निकाला गया है;

(ख) उनमें से कितने कर्मचारियों को सैनिक और अर्द्ध सैनिक संस्थानों में रोजगार दिया गया है तथा ऐसे कितने व्यक्ति हैं जो अब भी बेरोजगार हैं;

(ग) ऐसे बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों की संख्या कितनी है जिन्होंने उस समय लड़ाई में भाग