

(c) the value of the goods likely to be imported from and exported to France under this agreement ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the table of the House.

Statement

Following the meeting of Indo-French Joint Economic Commission from 7th March to 11th March 1969 the Indo-French Trade Arrangement came to be renewed for a period of one year from the 1st January, 1969 and Protocol containing agreed conclusions of the meeting was signed on the 17th March, 1969.

The main provisions of the Protocol are as follows :—

- (i) Increased quotas for some of the Indian products still subject to quantitative restrictions in France were agreed to by the French delegation. For example, quotas for dried mushrooms have been increased from 1.5 million Frs. in 1968 to 2.0 million Frs. in 1969, for articles of woollen hosiery from 200,000 Frs. in 1968 to 220,000 Frs. in 1969, for clothing other than cotton from 650,000 Frs. in 1968 to 720,000 Frs. in 1969 for Tennis and basket ball shoes from 660,000 Frs. in 1968 to 800,000 Frs. in 1969 for fairs and exhibitions from 750,000 Frs. in 1968 to 800,000 Frs. in 1969 and for miscellaneous products from 600,000 Frs. in 1968 to 650,000 Frs. in 1969.
- (ii) The French delegation informed that all quantitative restrictions on import of onions into France were abolished for the period 1st March to the 15th of May, 1969.
- (iii) It was agreed that the import licences for the articles made of coir fibres into France will henceforth be visaed by the Indian Embassy in Paris.

(iv) In order to promote trade exchanges between the two countries, a Trade Delegation comprising French importers, exporters, manufacturers and bankers would visit India towards the end of 1969.

(v) The French Government has agreed to receive two experts from India for identifying the specific items in the non-traditional field and studying the measures that may be necessary with a view to promoting their exports to France.

(vi) The French delegation would recommend to the French television authorities to televise special programmes on India depicting her industrial and export potential.

(c) The Indo-French Trade Arrangement is on the pattern of our trade agreements/arrangements with free market economy countries and does not involve import/export commitment from either side.

Export of Walnuts

*986. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether walnut exports have been continuously declining year after year for the past three years ;

(b) if so, the relevant figures showing exports of walnuts in terms of weight and earnings therefrom for each of these years and how they compare with the corresponding estimates for the year 1968-69 ;

(c) the reasons for the decline in exports ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to boost exports of walnuts ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) No, Sir.

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

- (d) (i) In order to provide the required packaging materials an import replenishment licence of 2% of the f. o. b. realisation on exports of walnuts is available.
- (ii) The Ministry of Food & Agriculture have drawn up special schemes to produce exportable variety of walnuts.
- (iii) A Standing Committee on Walnuts is being set up to go into the problems of production, marketing, research and packaging for export.

Allotment of Quota of Raw Films to Producers

*987. SHRI JUGAL MONDAL : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3130 on the 3rd December, 1968 and state :

(a) whether the information regarding the allotment of quota of raw films to producers has been collected by Government ;

(b) if so, whether any complaints have been received against the Film Companies referred to in the aforesaid question that they mostly sold their quotas of raw films in the back market : and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government against them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir. A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—987/69*].

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Target of Commercial Vehicles for the Fourth Plan

*988. SHRI D. C. SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the working group of Planning Commission on industries has recommended a target of 75,000 commercial vehicles for the Fourth Plan ;

(b) whether the recommendation has been examined ; and

(c) if so, the decision taken in the matter and the steps envisaged to achieve the target ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) The Planning Group for Machinery Industries set up by the Ministry of Industrial Development at the instance of the Planning Commission has recommended a demand target of 85,000 units of commercial vehicles including 10,000 of light commercial vehicles for the year 1973-74 ;

(b) and (c). The recommendations of the Planning Group are under examination and a decision will be taken after the Fourth Plan has been approved by the National Development Council.

Trilateral Arrangement between India, Bulgaria and Tunisia

*989. SHRI A. SREEDHARAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has recently concluded a trilateral arrangement with commercial organisation of Bulgaria and Tunisia for the export of Tea and other commodities to Tunisia : and

(b) if so, the foreign exchange likely to be earned thereby ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The arrangement envisages export earnings in non-convertible Indian Rupees