

(d) The State's Draft Plan did not mention any specific rate of growth of the State's economy as a whole during the five year period, 1969—74.

Export of Cement

*388. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the main areas for the export of Indian cement have been Ceylon and the Persian Gulf countries ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in these areas, India has not been able to exploit the market potential fully ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and the comparative figures for export of cement to these areas during the last three years ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to exploit these areas and to tap other markets for Indian cement ?

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

(b) No, Sir. Our exports of cement to these countries have gone up from Rs. 33,000/- in 1966-67 to Rs. 1.52 crores in 1968-69.

(c) A statement showing figures of exports to all destinations is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-1546/169]

(d) Apart from deputing Sales Teams by S.T.C. for booking orders on the spot, the following steps have been taken :—

(i) The average loss in the export of cement worked out to about Rs. 33/- per tonne is met in the following manner :—

(a) Upto Rs. 25/- from Market Development Fund ;

(b) Upto Rs. 6/- per tonne from Cement Regulation Account maintained by Cement Corporation of India ; and

(c) the balance from factories engaged in cement exports.

(ii) Import of Sack Craft paper is allowed to raise the packing of cement to international standards.

(iii) Export of cement has been canalised through S.T.C. with effect from 1st April, 1969.

Agreement Entered into with France for Building of Kalpakkam Reactor

*389 SHRI SAMAR GUHA :
SHRI MAHARAJ SINGH
BHARATI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Atomic Energy Commission has entered into an agreement with the Government of France regarding building of Kalpakkam reactor ;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of such agreement ;

(c) whether Kalpakkam reactor will be a breeder type reactor first of its kind in India and Asia also ;

(d) whether thorium will be used for charging the Kalpakkam reactor and whether such Thorium will be extracted and purified from the Monazite sands available in India in large quantity ; and

(e) the resultant benefits of constructing a breeder reactor of the Kalpakkam type and use of thorium as its charge ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b). Under an agreement entered into with the Commissariat al' Energic Atomique of France, the Commissariat is sharing its experience in the field of fast breeder reactor technology with the Indian Atomic Energy Commission. India will bear the entire expenditure on the preparation of the project report and conduct of joint studies.