

- (ii) Import of spare parts of certain capital goods and packaging materials are being allowed under the import policy for Registered Exporters of Fish and Fish products.
- (iii) Sustain export publicity through participation in international fairs/exhibitions, press publicity etc. are being undertaken by the Marine products Export Promotion Council on behalf of the exporters.
- (iv) Improvement in quality by bringing most of the items of marine products under the purview of Export (Quality Control & Inspection) Act, 1963.

(b) to (d). The export of marine products has increased from 21,907 tonnes in 1967-68 valued at Rs. 19.72 crores to 26,811 tonnes in 1968-69 valued at Rs. 24.70 crores. Among the important items which have registered increase in exports during 1968-69 as compared to 1967-68 are frozen prawns which has risen from Rs. 13.33 crores to Rs. 18.02 crores, dried fish from 1.18 crores to Rs. 1.41 crores, frozen lobster tails from 0.35 crores to Rs. 0.92 crores and frozen froglegs from Rs. 0.62 crores to Rs. 0.65 crores. During the period April to October, 1969 the exports of marine products has already been of the order of Rs. 20.16 crores as compared to Rs. 11.76 crores during the corresponding period of the previous year. The increase has been mainly due to increase in exports of frozen prawns which has risen from Rs. 8.29 crores during April-October, 1968 to Rs. 16.57 crores during April-October, 1969.

(c) No item-wise targets have been fixed either for production or export for the Fourth Five Year Plan.

Import of Jute

*652. SHRI R. K. BIRLA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian jute mills depend on imported jute since indigenous jute supply is insufficient;

(b) if so, the quantity of jute imported during the last two years and the names of the countries from where imported and the value thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a demand has been made for the scientific cultivation of jute in the country and if so, the steps which have been taken by Government and the industry in this regard; and

(d) whether Government have developed a jute seed also for producing better quality jute with better yield and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) Jute is imported during years of scarcity.

(b) 34,032 tonnes valued at Rs. 4.89 crores in 1967-68 and 92,452 tonnes valued at Rs. 16.46 crores in 1968-69, from Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.

(c) Requests have been made from time to time for increasing the yield, production and quality of jute. A statement is laid on the Table of the House showing the steps taken in this regard.

(d) Yes, Sir.

STATEMENT

Steps taken to Increase the Yield, Production and Quality of Jute

1. To increase the yield of fibre, foliar spray of urea is being encouraged.
2. A special package programme on jute has been included in the Fourth Five Year Plan, under which it is proposed to cover 2.10 lakh acres by the end of the Plan. Under this programme, improved seeds will be provided to the jute growers at 50% subsidy. The entire area will be sown in lines with seed-drills and wheel-hoes to be supplied free of charge to the farmers.

Government will meet the cost of urea for foliar spraying. The operational cost of low volume power sprayers will also be met by Government. Jute grading will also form an integral part of this programme.

3. The Indian Jute Mills Association has also undertaken jute development work consisting of (a) demonstration of intensive cultivation and (b) jute seed multiplication and distribution.

Import of Stainless Steel From Japan

*653. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is a consistent buyer of stainless steel from Japan which reserves 300 tonnes of stainless steel per month for Indian customers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the import licences were not issued by Government to cover our full quota in the recent past;

(c) whether Government consider that since the ruling Japanese prices for stainless steel were lower than world prices, we should have imported our full quota if only to re-export the surplus requirements, if any, for a profit; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not utilising import quota fully and whether steps have now been taken to ensure that similar opportunities are not lost in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) A statement showing imports of stainless steel sheets from Japan and other countries since 1968-69 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in library. See No. LT-2380/69]. Import licences are granted on the general currency area except for those issued against specific foreign credits

and the Rupee Payment area. Government are not aware whether Japan reserves 300 tonnes of stainless steel per month for Indian customers.

(b) to (d). In the light of the programme of domestic production, import licences are issued in respect of permissible specifications of stainless steel sheets, strips and plates, required for the manufacture of essential end-products, to cover half of the requirements of actual users; the import of the balance is allowed on the production of non-availability certificates from indigenous producers. Import is permitted only when inescapable and not merely on the ground of lower prices abroad. The present import policy does not provide for the import of foreign goods only for the purpose of re-export without further processing.

युगोस्लाविया से आयात तथा निर्यात

*६५४. श्री डा. सुन्दर लाल : क्या वैदेशिक व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1967, 1968 तथा 1969 में युगोस्लाविया से किन-किन वस्तुओं का आयात किया गया और किन-किन वस्तुओं का निर्यात किया गया ; और

(ख) कितने मूल्य (रुपयों में) का पृथक पृथक आयात तथा निर्यात किया गया ?

वैदेशिक मंत्री (श्री राम सेवक): (क) तथा (ख) . युगोस्लाविया से निम्न लिखित प्रमुख वस्तुओं का भारत में आयात किया जाता है : स्नेहक से बने तेल, रसायन, अलोह धातुएं तथा अर्द्ध-लौह धातुएं, ट्रैक्टर संघटक, डीजल इंजन संघटक, निर्माण तथा मिट्टी हटाने के उपकरण तथा पूंजीगत माल और उपकरण । भारत से युगोस्लाविया को निर्यात की जाने वाली मुख्य वस्तुएं ये हैं : लौह अयस्क, टेकमटाइल वस्त्र, पटमन में बना सामान, कमाई हुई अथवा अर्द्ध कमाई खानें तथा चर्मद्वियों, टायर तथा ट्यूब्स, एल्यूमिनियम पिण्ड, निनोनियम और