

दुकानों की सक्वाई जानने की प्रयत्न करेंगे और उसके बाद जब वह सक्वाई से परिचित हो जाएंगे तो बाकई इस प्रणाली को सुधारने के लिए कोई जोस कदम उठाने का प्रयत्न करेंगे ? यदि वह ऐसा करेंगे तो मुझे बहुत खुशी होगी। इसलिए मैं चाहूँगी कि वह इस सदन में इस बात का जवाब दें ? सधन्यवाद।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The gist of it is: would you like to go in disguise to the shops to find out the malpractices. If you do so, she will be very happy.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : Actually I am already doing it like this.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : If you had done that this reply would not have been there. This is a totally official reply.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : O. K. Let him answer now.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I have already visited like this twice in Delhi. I have visited the godowns and fair-price shops. After visiting these places I also found some mistakes. I immediately conveyed them to the LG as well as to the Delhi Administration officials that they should take strong action against certain persons who are indulging in these kinds of mischiefs. I had visited other States also. As I stated earlier, this is a joint operation between Central Government and the State Governments. The responsibility of the Central Government is procurement, storage and distribution of PDS articles to the State Governments. The entire responsibility of implementation is vested with the State Governments. I can answer on the floor of the House only on the basis of the information provided by the State Governments and Union Territories. I cannot supply any information on my own. Whatever information I am giving here is on the basis of information provided to us by State Governments and Union Territories. Regarding Delhi also, the information I am giving is not from our side but from the administration of the Union Territory of Delhi.

AN. I said; earlier—this should not be taken in a different sense, in a negative

sense—now that a popular Government has come to power in Delhi. I hope they will see that this kind of malpractices are totally eliminated. The Central Government will give total support to the Delhi Government to check these malpractices. That much I can assure you.

SHRI ASHOK MITRA : Madam Deputy Chairman, there is a widespread feeling of dissatisfaction over the unevenness of the quality of grains that is supplied to different States. Some States feel that they are getting the worse end of the stick, notion is being fastened that the farthest you are from the nation's capital, the worst will be the quality of grains that will be distributed to you. I would humbly ask the hon. Minister if he could do something to remove the feeling. It is not good for national integration.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : As far as the Central Government is concerned, we are particular that there should not be any discrimination against any State with regard to distribution of PDS articles of quality and quantity. But there are complaints always coming from major States. Now complaints are coming from Delhi, the national capital. Whenever we are getting complaints about quality and quantity of grains from various States or from the public at large, we convey it to the officers concerned or the persons concerned immediately. We are always trying to improve the quality. There is a serious attempt going on to improve the quality. I think we will be able to improve the quality of grains further.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Q. No. 44. ... (Interruptions) ... Please take your seat, I have gone to the next question. This is Question Hour.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Madam, I am requesting ... (Interruptions) ...

आयात और निर्यात

* 44. श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मौम अफजल : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1992-93 के दौरान कुल कितनी राशि का आयात हुआ, और

(ख) उक्त अवधि में कुल कितनी राशि का निर्यात हुआ ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The value of imports made during 1992-93 is US \$ 21882 million.

(b) The value of export made during 1992-93 is US \$ 18537 million.

श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल : मैडम, मंत्री महोदय ने वर्ष 1993 की जो फिगर दी है उसमें और 1992 की इंपोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट की फिगर में जितना फर्क है फीसद के हिसाब से, तो इसमें क्या वह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इसमें हमको घाटा हुआ है या फायदा हुआ है ? अगर घाटा हुआ है तो घाटा क्यों बढ़ा है, क्या वजूहात हैं उसकी और अगर फायदा हुआ है तो उसको मजिद बढ़ाने के आप लिए क्या कर रहे हैं ?

مستری محمد افضل عرف ميم افضل ميم
مستری مہر دے نے ورش ۱۹۹۳ کی جو فیکر
دی ہے اس میں اور ۱۹۹۲ کی امپورٹ اور
ایکسپورٹ کی فیکر میں جتنا فرق ہے فیصد
کے حساب سے تو اس میں کیا وہ بتانے
کی کڑپا کریں گے کہ اس میں ہم کو گھٹا ہوا
ہے یا فائدہ ہوا ہے۔ اگر گھٹا ہوا ہے تو
گھٹا کیوں بڑھا ہے۔ کیا وجوہات ہیں
اس کی اور اگر فائدہ ہوا ہے تو اس کو
مزید بڑھانے کے لئے آپ کیا کر
رہے ہیں۔

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Madam Deputy Chairman, the financial year is normally considered from the 1st of April to the 31st March of the next year. That is why I am giving the figure of 1992-93. If the hon. Member wants to know and compare the figure of 1992-93 to 1993-94.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL : 1991-92 and 1992-93 figures ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : That figure also, I am having. So far as imports for the year 1991-92 are concerned. Export was to the tune of about 17 billion US dollars and import, 22 billion US dollars. These are the comparative figures for 1991-92 and 1992-93.

So far as the profit and loss, which the hon. Members wanted to know, are concerned, I do not understand what is meant by "profit and loss" in the international trade. If he wants to know the difference between the imports and the exports, then, always we have more imports and less exports. As for the trade-gap for the previous year, it was about five billion US dollars. If I remember correctly, Madam, since the beginning of the Plans, in only one year this country had trade surplus when export was more than import. In only one year, it was so and that was 1976-77. At that time, we had trade surplus of a small amount, of Rs. 72 crores. Otherwise, every year, we are always having deficit on trade account.

श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल : मैडम, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो चीजें हम एक्सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं उसमें किस किस की कगोडिटीज ज्यादा है और मैं एक और स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या 'हिन्दूस्तान' से

ہمسانی ڈانچوں کا ایکسپورٹ بھی ہو رہا ہے، اسکالٹس کا اور کیا اسکی بکایا دیا سرکاری طور پر رجسٹرڈ ہے؟ کیا سرکار کے ایلیم میں ہے کہ کون سا لوگ ہمسانی ڈانچوں کو، اسکالٹس کو ایکسپورٹ کر رہے ہیں؟ اگر کر رہے ہیں تو کیا سرکار کی طرف سے رجسٹرڈ ہے اور اگر یہ ڈانچے ایکسپورٹ کیا جا رہے ہیں تو ہم نے ان سالوں میں کتنی ٹن ڈانچے ہمسانی کے بارے میں میں نہیں پوچھا ہے؟ لیکن ہمسانی ڈانچوں کے بارے میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں۔

دوسری بات میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ جو چیزیں ہم ایکسپورٹ کرتے ہیں اس میں کس قسم کی چیزیں ہم زیادہ ایکسپورٹ کر رہے ہیں اور اس ایکسپورٹ کو کم کرنے کے لئے سرکار کی طرف سے کوئی ایسی پالیسی ہے کہ جن چیزوں کو ہم زیادہ ایکسپورٹ کرتے ہیں ان میں ہم خود کفیل ہو سکیں اس طرح کی کوئی پالیسی ہمارے ذہن میں ہے کیا؟

شری محمد افضل عرف م۔ افضل:

میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ جو چیزیں ہم ایکسپورٹ کر رہے ہیں اس میں کس قسم کی کمڈٹیز زیادہ ہیں اور میں ایک اور اسپیکل کو شین آپ سے پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا ہندوستان سے انسان ڈھانچوں کا ایکسپورٹ بھی ہو رہا ہے اسکیلٹس کا اور اس کی باقاعدہ سرکاری طور پر اجازت ہے۔ کیا سرکار کے علم میں ہے کہ کچھ لوگ سرکاری ڈھانچوں کو اسکیلٹس کو ایکسپورٹ کر رہے ہیں۔ اگر کر رہے ہیں تو کیا سرکار کی طرف سے اجازت ہے اور اگر یہ ڈھانچے

ایکسپورٹ کیے جا رہے ہیں تو ہم نے ان سالوں میں کتنی ڈھانچے اس سے انسان ڈھانچے ایکسپورٹ کئے ہیں۔ ہمدان آگنس کے بارے میں میں نہیں پوچھا ہے لیکن ہمسانی ڈھانچوں کے بارے میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں۔ دوسری بات میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ جو چیزیں ہم ایکسپورٹ کرتے ہیں اس میں کس قسم کی چیزیں ہم زیادہ ایکسپورٹ کر رہے ہیں اور اس ایکسپورٹ کو کم کرنے کے لئے سرکار کی طرف سے کوئی ایسی پالیسی ہے کہ جن چیزوں کو ہم زیادہ ایکسپورٹ کرتے ہیں ان میں ہم خود کفیل ہو سکیں اس طرح کی کوئی پالیسی ہمارے ذہن میں ہے کیا۔

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the major items of export are concerned, textiles contribute about one-third of the total exports. It is followed by gems and jewellery; then come engineering items followed by chemicals and certain other types of products. Computer software is also picking up. These are the major items so far as the export basket is concerned, apart from commodities like tea, coffee and marine products such as shrimps.

So far as the major items of import are concerned, petrol and petroleum products constitute the bulk followed by capital goods, industrial raw material and chemicals and plastic material. These are the major components of import.

So far as bones and skeletons are concerned, the number of skeletons imported.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Exported.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I do not know whether they are imported or exported, from or to which areas. I will collect the information and . . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZAL : Human bones or what ?

I am asking whether they are human bones.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I do not have the information whether it is exported or imported at all.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZAL : I am asking you. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I will collect the information and give you.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL : Are skeletons being exported to other countries ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He does not have the information. (*Interruptions*). Hon. Member, he does not have the information about the export of skeletons. He will let you know as soon as he gets the information.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL : Is it officially permitted or not ?

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS : Madam, he could even deny.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZAL : He should tell us whether he accepts or denies it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If he has the information, he can either deny or accept it. If he does not have the information, how can he either deny or accept it ? It is common sense.

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZAL : At least, the hon. Minister should give me an assurance that he will give me the information.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He said so. You did not hear it. He said, "I will find out the information and give it to you". And he does not want to give you a wrong information, if he does not have it.

SHRI JIBON ROY : Madam, I want to know from the hon. Minister the percentage of share in exports contributed by various sectors, such as small scale sector, big industries, industries, covered under MRTP, agriculture, export processing centres, mining. I want to know the sector-wise contribution of exports in percentage.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Madam, we do not maintain any statistics of export items, producer or sector-wise. Commodity-wise, Yes, we do it. But so far as the share of small-scale sector in exports is concerned, it is nearly one-third of the total exports.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Swell. . . (*Interruptions*) . . .

SHRI JIBON ROY : Madam, if the figures are not maintained, how will the people understand the correct picture of the exports ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Swell.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Madam, according to the figures given by him, he has not given the correct figures for the year 1991-92. He was only saying 12 billion, 22 billion and 17 billion. He did not give the exact figures. There was a shortfall of about 3 billion dollars in the value of our exports in 91-92 and this year, the shortfall was 2,345 million dollars. . . (*Interruption*) . . . Can I ask a question, please ? Now you can claim it as being a small improvement in the value of our exports by about 700 dollars. Would you kindly, tell us what were the factors that accounted for this small improvement ? No. (a) No. (b) is : Is it true that our much touted agricultural

exports are not doing so well because the phytosanitary standards of our agricultural products do not measure up with those of the developed countries?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Madam, the hon. Member is, perhaps, confused about the 3 billion dollars of trade gap which he is talking of; that is related to 1992-93. So far as the question of improvement in exports for the current year, i. e. 1993-94, is concerned, the figure is available from April to October. From April to October, our trade gap has come down substantially because our exports in terms of ... (Interruption) ...

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I am asking for 1992-93.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He is referring to it. Mr. Swell, he is referring to it.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : 1992-93 figures I have given in the text itself. ... (Interruption) ... 1992-93 figures I have given in the text. Then what is the point in asking me;

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I am refering to 1991-92. I am noot refering to 1993-94.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : What is your question?

SHRI G. G. SWELL : My question is this, how do we account for this slight improvement in the value of our exports in 1992-93 over what it was in 1991-92? Am I clear?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Yes.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Then, I am asking whether it is not true that we are not doing so well in agricultural exports because our agricultural products do not measure up to the phytosanitary standards of the developed countries. Is it clear?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Quite clear. Madam, so far as the question how our exports are expanding is concerned, I will advise the hon. Member to read the

Export Policies. A few I can explain ... firstly, because of the improvement in exports due to initial partial convertibility of the Indian rupee and later on full convertibility of the Indian rupee; secondly, facilitating the exporters to import raw-material, capital goods, technology so that they can expand their production base. Thirdly, there was a major decline so far as the year 1992-93 is concerned; we improved our performance in the general currency area but the exports grew in dollar terms by 11 per cent. But we did not get the full benefit of the improvement because of the decline in trade in the rupee payment area to the extent of 60% in 1992-93 compared o 1991-92. In respect of the second question which the hon. Member has asked that our agricultural exports are not picking up, yes, it is not picking up to the extent of the potentiality which we have. But, of course, it is picking up to the performance compared to the previous year.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Madam, has he answered my question? My question was that our agricultural products were not doing so well because our phytosanitary standards did not measure up to that of the of developed countries.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I think so ... (Interruptions) ... Shrimati Chandrika Jain.

SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHENANDAN JAIN : The fundamental feature of the new export-import policy is the freedom in the field of foreign trade. The emphasis is on few restrictions and less administrative controls. The hon. Minister has recently trimmed down the negative list of exports and he has in fact freed the goods in short supply in India for sale abroad. The export of agricultural products is a glaring example. Boosting of exports of agricultural products has pushed up the domestic prices of consumer goods. A feeling has been generated that the Government has opted for export of commodities and services and by-passed the industrial products. Would you like to offer your comments as regards this feeling which has been generated in the minds of the public that

you are opting for commodities and goods and services and you are by-passing the export of industrial products? Despite changes in trade and industrial policies, lack of technological dynamism in the industry has checked the growth of exports. Foreign collaboration, though an important source of technology, is not enough. Massive investment in R & D is required and more and more modernisation of plants is needed. Will the Government take steps and ask the industry to invest more and more in R & D experiments?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Madam, during the Question Hour I cannot explain the policy matters how to improve the competitiveness of the Indian industry so that the share of the manufactured items in our exports basket can be increase and stepped up. It is true that the contribution of agriculture has increased substantially even in terms of percentage. There is a 38% increase in the year 1992-93 compared to 1991-92. I do agree that it is not matching to the potentialities which we have. In respect of that suggestion which the hon. Member has made about the impact on the domestic market of certain agricultural commodities, when we are emphasising on exports, our approach has been that if we can simply prevent wastage which takes place in agricultural commodities in this country by providing the necessary technological and marketing inputs to the farming community, we can generate adequate surplus for exports, for example, India is the second largest vegetable producer and the second largest fruit producer. Therefore, the concept that if we encourage agricultural exports there will be constraints in the domestic market is not really relevant. So far as the import of technology and also facilitating the improvement of technological strength of the domestic industry are concerned, we are always giving encouragement to them and we are also giving encouragement for improving the research and development. The various fiscal concessions which my colleague in the Finance Ministry gives to this sector, I do feel, will be availed of.

DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Madam Deputy Chairman, will the hon. Minister

state whether the Government is considering a proposal to join either of the three emerging regional trade groupings such as the Economic Community, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) or the Asia Pacific without prejudice to its pursuit of a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Negotiations, as a strategy to boost exports? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Madam, in fact, the hon. Member himself has answered the question which he put by saying that India's traditional position has been to encourage the multilateral trade arrangement. Rule-based multilateral trade arrangement is preferable to us. But at the same time we cannot ignore the fact that in various parts of the world different trading blocs are emerging and NAFTA is the latest in the series. So far as our approach to the regional trade blocs is concerned, it would depend on our mutual interest. But we do encourage having rule-based multilateral for which will give advantages to developing countries like India.

Export of Agricultural Produce

*45. **SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to benefit the farmers through export of their agricultural produce in pursuance of the proposal already announced by Government;

(b) whether Government proposed to permit individual farmers/farmers' co-operatives to export their produce; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.