

[11 December, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether it is also a fact that it is unable to stay in the world market due to the discrepancies in the policies of Government and their negligence in the world trade in the context of changing economy; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Indo-Nepal trade talks

2305. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that Indo-Nepal trade talks were held recently, and

(b) if so, what was the outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI) : (a) and (b) A meeting of the India-Nepal Inter-Governmental Committee on Trade, Transit and Cooperation to Control Unauthorised Trade was held at Kathmandu on August 2-5-2001. Various issues relating to measures to be taken to promote bilateral trade, to improve the transit facilities for Nepalese trade with third countries and measures to be taken by the two Governments to control unauthorised trade were discussed.

Demand for cashew kernels

2306. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for cashew kernels in the country is more than the production and raw cashew nut is being imported from American countries;

(b) if so, the total amount of cashew nuts imported during the last two years and the foreign exchange spent on this head;

(c) whether Orissa has got very good potential of growing cashew nut; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to promote cashew nut industry in the last two years in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Production of raw cashew nut in India is enough to meet the indigenous demand for cashew kernels. However, raw cashew nut is imported into the country as a raw material for exporting cashew kernels produced out of them.

(b) The raw cashew nut imported into the country for the last 2 years is as below :

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1999-2000	253577	1188.20
2000-01 (P)	249087	962.14

(P)—Provisional

Source : CEPC

(c) The raw cashew nut production in Orissa during the year 2000-01 was 59.000 MTs as against the total Indian Production of 4,50.000 MT.

(d) Government of India through Cashew Export Promotion Council has been implementing schemes for modernization of cashew industry which include obtaining ISO 9000/HACCP Certification and acquiring latest packaging systems by Cashew Export Processing Units. Cashew Export Processing Units of any State including Orissa can avail benefit of these schemes.

Export of brass-goods

† 2307. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the overall quantity of brass-goods exported during the last three years:

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned through it during the said period: and

(c) the steps taken by Government to encourage the export of brass made goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) The overall quantity

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.