

| S. No. | Items | Apr.-July 00 | Apr.-July 01 |
|--------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 4. | Pulses | 175.83 | 871.60 |
| 5. | Tea | 8.07 | 15.48 |
| 6. | Cashew nuts | 362.44 | 100.74 |
| 7. | Fruits & nuts excl. Cashew nuts | 199.69 | 167.92 |
| 8. | Spices | 81.54 | 124.74 |
| 9. | Sugar | 20.52 | 26.60 |
| 10. | Oil Seeds | 2.46 | 0.29 |
| 11. | Natural rubber | 14.61 | 15.80 |
| 12. | Jute, raw | 37.17 | 30.99 |
| 13. | Silk, raw | 122.22 | 165.48 |
| 14. | Cotton raw: comb./uncomb./waste | 623.61 | 824.94 |
| TOTAL: | | 1664.61 | 2347.43 |

Setback in WTO discussions

167. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has suffered a setback in its attempt to prevent the WTO from widening its mandate and the meeting at Doha from November, 9th-13th is all set to authorise the launch of negotiation covering an expanded agenda covering the entire range of new issues;

(b) whether the Indian industry is upset at this as it will adversely affect their business; and

(c) if so, what is Government's strategy to counter this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The Fourth Ministerial Conference of WTO was held from November 9th-14th 2001 at Doha, Qatar. The Conference adopted the Ministerial Declaration on 14th Nov. 2001 containing decisions on a number of issues. The Ministerial Declaration highlights the Work Programme of WTO, which includes significant number of issues of interest to India. These include important issues like greater market access for agricultural products for developing countries through reduction

of export subsidies and trade distorting domestic support given by developed countries, food security and rural development concerns of developing countries in agriculture negotiations, addressing the issue related to extension of protection of geographical indications to products other than wines and spirits, protection of traditional knowledge & folklore, Public Health and access to medicines, clarification and improvement of disciplines relating to anti-dumping and subsidies and countervailing measures, special and differential treatment for developing countries and negotiations on market access-for non-agricultural products aimed at elimination of non-tariff barriers and tariff peaks and tariff escalations. On the Singapore issues relating to Investment, Competition Policy, Trade Facilitation and Transparency in Government Procurement, the Ministerial Conference decided to launch negotiations after the 5th Session of Ministerial Conference only on the basis of decisions to be taken at that session by "Explicit Consensus". On Environment, it was decided to initiate negotiations on some of the agenda items of the Committee on Trade & Environment; for all other items the study process has to continue. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) have supported the stand taken by India. India has now to participate at the WTO in the light of decision of the Ministerial Conference in close consultation with the stake-holders including, among others, the Industry & Trade, and keeping in view the national interests.

Decline in export of Tea

168. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the export of Tea during the current year as compared to last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details thereof as on date month-wise and country-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) There has been a decline in export of tea in quantity and value terms during the period April-August, 2001