

closed and working mines to assess the prospect of increasing the production of working mines and reopening of closed mines.

(c) The provisional figures of foreign exchange earned on account of export of mica is given below:

| Year | Value (Rs. in crores) |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1986-87 | 31.61 |
| 1987-88 | 47.07 |
| 1988-89 | 42.47 |

309. [Transferred to the 20th March 1990]

Inquiry into lavish spending in a marriage in Bombay

310. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

SHRI ASHIS SEN:

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the AAjkal of 21st January, 1990 regarding lavish spending in a marriage ceremony held at Bombay;

(b) if so, whether CBDT officials of the area have been asked to file a report in the matter; and

(c) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):
(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) and (c) Survey under Section 133A (5) of the Income-tax Act and related enquiries have been undertaken at Bombay to ascertain the quantum of expenditure incurred on the marriage ceremony of the daughter of Shri Bharat Shah and the son of Shri Kishore Mehta, both diamond merchants of Bombay. The enquiries include verification of expenses on wedding cards, decoration at Wankhede Stadium and Cooperage grounds catering, accommodation, private cars and taxis, tailors and drapers, sweetmeats, fireworks, light effects, sound system, video and photography and ascertaining the source of value of jewellery and other gifts given to the bride.

Review of Pepsi Cola Project

311. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pepsi Cola Project in Punjab, as approved by the previous Government has been referred to the Union Cabinet for review and necessary action, and

(b) if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Divergent views have been expressed on the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation-Pepsico-Voltas project. They are under the active consideration of the Government.

Constitution of All India River Board

312. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and stage of the study said to have been undertaken

by Government to explore the possibilities of diverting the west flowing rivers in Kerala to Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether there is any proposal to constitute an All India River Board to monitor the utility of river waters;

(c) if so, when the proposal is expected to materialise; and

(d) if there is no such proposal what are the proposals envisaged by Government to make the best use of the available river waters in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INDEPENDENT CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) A preliminary feasibility report for linking of rivers in Kerala viz. Pamba & Achankovil to the Vaigai river in Tamil Nadu has been prepared.

(b) to (d) The National Water Development Agency has already been established in 1982 to promote scientific development for optimum utilisation of water resources in the country.

Foreign Trade

313. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) the total Value of annual exports, imports and trade deficit during the year 1987, 1988, 1989, yearwise and the prevailing trend in the months of January and February; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to maintain the present favourable trend in foreign trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The details of total value of exports, imports and trade deficit during the financial years 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 (April-December) and in the months of January and February 1987, 1988 and 1989 are as under:

(Value Rs. Crores)

| Year | Exports | Imports | Trade Deficit |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|
| 1987-88 | 15741.23 | 22243.74 | - 6502.51 |
| 1988-89 | 20295.15 | 28193.65 | - 7898.50 |
| 1989-90 (P) (April-Dec.) | 19254.85 | 24773.30 | - 5518.45 |
| Jan. 1987 | 1014.57 | 1686.27 | - 67.17 |
| Jan. 1988 | 1367.75 | 1752.85 | - 385.10 |
| Jan. 1989 | 1959.65 | 2425.60 | - 465.95 |
| Feb. 1987 | 1141.00 | 1636.34 | - 495.34 |
| Feb. 1988 | 1316.95 | 1769.42 | - 452.47 |
| Feb. 1989 | 1883.34 | 2303.40 | - 420.08 |

(P) Provisional