

Indo-Japanese trade

686. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are possibilities of expansion of trade prospect with Japan; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are possibilities of increasing our exports of traditional as well as non-traditional items to the Japanese market.

Export of rice to East-European countries

687. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is exporting rice to East European countries;

(b) if so, what are the rates of purchase by these countries as against prevailing prices in India; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring the export of all types of rice under S.T.C. or some other Government agencies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The export realisation was Rs. 5500 per M.T. for Basmati Rice and more than Rs. 3100 per M.T. f.o.b. for non-Basmati Rice.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Export of tobacco

688. SHRI SURESH SHAMRAO KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large stocks of tobacco have been lying with the farmers for want of buyers;

(b) if so, whether Government have instructed the Tobacco Board to make arrangements to purchase the stocks with the farmers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the dues to tobacco growers are mounting and if so, what steps Government have taken to help the farmers in getting their dues cleared from the tobacco companies; and

(d) whether Government have taken steps to explore avenues to export the surplus tobacco stocks lying with the farmers and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) 1981-82 crop of virginia tobacco in Andhra Pradesh has almost been marketed and there are no surplus stocks of virginia tobacco with the farmers. Some complaints from growers for non-payment of dues by the buyers have been received by the Tobacco Board and efforts are being made by the Board to get the payment made to the farmers by the buyers.

Works estimated over 25 lakhs included in Defence Budget for 1982-83

689. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN, SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of works estimated to cost over Rs. 25 lakhs each as included in the budget estimates 1982-83 between carry-over and new works;

(b) the break-up of the carry-over works according to the year of inception;

(c) their break-up according to the original estimate of the period of completion;

(d) the reason for the delay in completion; and

(e) the estimated escalation in cost caused by this delay?