

†[Changes in trade agreement with Iran on Kudremukh Iron Ore Project

1725. SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the details regarding changes proposed to be made in the trade agreement signed previously with Iran on the Kudremukh project on the basis of the talks held by the Minister of Finance on the occasion of his visit to Iran in September, 1980.]

वाणिज्य तथा इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी): वित्त मंत्री ने सितम्बर, 1980 में ईरान के अपने दौरे के दौरान ईरान के वित्त मंत्री के साथ हुई बातचीत में कुद्रेमुख परियोजना के सम्बन्ध में संक्षेप में बातचीत करते हुए कहा था कि बकाया मामले बातचीत से तय किए जा सकते हैं। बातचीत में कुद्रेमुख से ईरान को लौह-अयस्क सांद्रण सप्लाई करने के सम्बन्ध में किए गए करार में किसी प्रकार का परिवर्तन करने के बारे में कोई सुझाव नहीं दिया गया था।

†[THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): The Minister of Finance during his talks with

Iran's Finance Minister on the occasion of his visit to Iran in September, 1980 briefly referred to the Kudremukh project and said that the outstanding issues could be resolved by negotiations. There was no suggestion for making any changes in the agreement with Iran on supply of iron ore concentrate from Kudremukh to that country.]

Supply position of essential commodities

1726. SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the monthly requirement and supply position of coal, cement and kerosene in Delhi since 1st January, 1980; and

(b) what were the retail prices at which each of these items were available to the consumers of Delhi during each month since January 1, 1980?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY): (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

Statement

Requirement of Coal, Cement and Kerosene in Delhi since 1st January, 1980 and their retail prices:—

SOFT COKE

Month	Requirement in Wagons	Actual supply (in wagons)	Retail price
January, 1980	1600	1088	Rs. 13.04 per Kgs.
February	1400	763	"
March	1200	940	"
April	1200	774	"
May	1200	472	"

†[] English translation.

Month	Requirement in Wagons	Actual supply (in wagons)	Retail price
June	1200	209	Rs. 13.04 per Kgs.
July	1200	154	"
August. . . .	1200	455	"
September	1400	657	"
October	1400	637	"

CEMENT

January, 1980	The average requirement	21284 M.T	Rs. 25.34 per bag (by rail) Rs. 28.43 per bag (by road)
February	of cement per month are	21284 "	
March	estimated at 40,000 M.T.	17254 "	
April		17258 "	
May		17258 "	
June		17258 "	
July		25797 "	
August. . . .		25797 "	
September		25797 "	
October		20049 "	

KEROSENE

January, 1980	According to the No.	12346 KL	Rs. 1.54 per Lt.
February	of card holders and the	12285 "	
March	scale prescribed for supply	11536 "	
April	of Kerosene Oil to each	10345 "	
May	card holder & for Indus-	10694 "	
June	trial use the requirement	9971 "	
July	is estimated at 16,000 Kl.	11696 "	
August		12250 "	
September		12620 "	
October			

Central Excise duty vis-a-vis Sales tax

1727. SHRI K. C. SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many States have objected to Government of India's proposal to include more items under Central Excise Duty outside Sales tax;

(b) what are the items intended to be included; and

(c) to what extent this will adversely affect the States' Sales tax collections?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (c) The question whether the scheme on additional excise duty in lieu of sales tax could be extended to a few other essential commodities, such as cement, medicines, vanaspati and petroleum products, as recommended by the Indirect Taxation Enquiry Committee, was one of the subjects discussed at the Chief Ministers' Conference on sales tax held in New Delhi on 16th and 17th September, 1980. At the concluding session, the Conference adopted a Resolution recommending *inter alia* that sales tax on life saving drugs listed as such by the Hathi Committee and on vanaspati be replaced by additional excise duties. The resolution