

and diversify the trade exchanges through measures like long-term arrangements for exchange of commodities, with a view to doubling the trade turnover between the two countries by 1983 from the level achieved in 1977.

4. Both sides placed particular emphasis on the need to supplement traditional trade exchanges by new forms of bilateral cooperation in industry and joint ventures in third countries. Specific areas, such as leather, tractor components, ship building, port development and electronics, were identified in this context.

5. Both sides agreed that participation in fairs and exhibitions was an important element of marketing strategy. In this context, the Indian side informed the Yugoslav side of its intention to participate in the Zagreb International Fair in September, 1979 and the Yugoslav side confirmed that they would participate in the India International Trade Fair, New Delhi, in November-December, 1979.

6. Yugoslav side indicated that they would conclude the shipping agreement with India soon after they ratify the U.N. Code of Conduct and in the meanwhile they would enter into negotiations and discussions on shipping agreement on the basis of parity and equality in cargo liftings.

7. The two Sides also reviewed the question of concluding an Inter-governmental Agreement on Air Transportation and agreed to continue further discussions to find a mutually acceptable solution.

Monopoly procurement of rubber

145. SHRI K. C. SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that rubber growers in the country have protested against the proposed monopoly procurement of rubber;

(b) whether it is a fact that the monopoly procurement is likely to affect the interests of rubber growers in general and small rubber growers in particular; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative what measures are being taken by Government to protect the interest of rubber growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) to (c) Measures to give adequate incentives to the rubber growers, which would, at the same time, take care of the interests of the rubber consuming industry are under the consideration of the Central Government. A scheme similar to the monopoly purchase of cotton is one of the suggestions. There have been some representations against a monopoly procurement scheme for rubber.

Import of Natural rubber

146. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the various rubber manufacturers organisations that they may be permitted to import natural rubber; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have authorised STC to issue Letters of Authority to such of the rubber manufacturing units as are desirous of importing natural rubber under this procedure. The quantity covered under this letter of authority procedure would

be two months' actual consumption by the unit concerned in 1978-79.

Raid on Export House in Golf Links and Jorbagh, New Delhi

147. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:

SHRIMATI MARGARET

ALVA:

SHRIMATI AMARJIT

KAUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of incriminating documents including alleged illegal foreign exchange transactions of several lakhs of rupees were detected in a joint raid conducted on the 4th June, 1979 by the Income tax and Enforcement authorities at the residential and business premises of a leading Export House in Golf Link, Jorbagh and in other South Delhi Colonies;

(b) whether in the raids the authorities unearthed documents which might expose non-repatriation of large sums of foreign exchange against the goods exported from India; and

(c) if so, who are the proprietors of business houses and what are the documents seized and who are the persons involved and what action Government propose to take against the persons involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) On the basis of certain reliable information received about evasion of taxes on income and of foreign exchange violations by Shri P. N. Balasubramaniam, his residential premises at 186, Golf Links, New Delhi and business premises of two private limited companies connected with him, namely, Festo Pneumatic India (Pvt.) Ltd., 154, Jor Bagh, New Delhi and Pan Asian Technical Services Private Limited, 186, Golf Links, New Delhi were raided by the officers of the Income-tax and Enforcement Directorate on 4-6-1979

From the two business premises account books and other incriminating documents relating to evasion of Income-tax and Foreign Exchange Regulation Act violations have been found and seized.

(b) and (c) Consequent to the scrutiny of the documents seized from the business premises of Shri P. N. Balasubramaniam searches were made in Madras of the business and residential premises of some of the business associates of Shri P. N. Balasubramaniam. Documents so far seized *prima-facie* reveal violation of provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and evasion of Income-tax Act by Shri P. N. Balasubramaniam and others. Further investigation of the case is in progress. It would not be in the interest of the investigation to disclose more details of the case at this stage.

Shortage of edible oils

148. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:

SHRIMATI MARGARET

ALVA:

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great shortage of edible oils in the country; and

(b) if so, whether Government have prepared any comprehensive scheme for procurement and distribution of edible oils and impose control to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. Whatever gap exists between the demand and indigenous supply of edible oils in the country is already being met through imports by the STC.