

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Scheme	Amount
(5) Integrated subsidised housing scheme for economically weaker section and industrial workers. . .	39.82
(6) Slum Clearance Scheme . . .	9.71
TOTAL . . .	90.00

Information relating to the allocation of the loan of Rs. 1100 lakhs disbursed during 1976-77 to Maharashtra Co-operative Housing Finance Society Ltd., for financing the affiliated primary co-operative housing societies in rural areas is not readily available with the L.I.C. Information in this regard is being collected.]

Trade with Iraq

*209. SHRI SWAISINGH SISODIA:
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI
KUMARI CHUNDAWAT: SHRI
PRAKASH MEHROTRA:

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

(a) the names of the commodities, proposed to be imported from, and exported to, Iraq during the current year;

(b) whether the trade gap between India and Iraq has widened in the recent years;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to bring about a balance in the trade between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The commodities likely to be imported by India from Iraq during the current year are petroleum, sul-

phur, dates and hides and skins. Items expected to be exported to Iraq are tea, coffee, rice, spices, tamarind, pickles, tobacco, jute goods, rubber and rubber products, including tyres and tubes, chemicals, engineering goods (including electrical and telecommunication equipment, bicycles and parts, fans and parts, refrigerators etc.), iron ore fines, timber products, mineral items etc.

(b) It is true that India's trade gap with Iraq has widened in recent years.

(c) The increase in the trade gap is mainly due to the increase in the quantity and value of imports of crude oil from Iraq.

(d) While it may be difficult to achieve an exact balance in the trade because of India's oil imports from Iraq, efforts are being made to increase our exports to Iraq by measures like dissemination of information about tenders to exporters, promotion of contacts between Indian exporters and Iraqi trading organisations, publicity through participation in trade fairs held in Iraq, visits by business delegations to Iraq etc.

Smuggling on the indo-Nepal Border and in the Coastal Areas

*210. SHRI F. M. KHAN; Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling activity is again on the increase on the Indo-Nepal border and in the coastal areas of Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(b) if so, what is the value of the smuggled goods seized from these areas from April to June, 1977; and

(c) whether Government have taken any concrete steps to check smuggling in these vulnerable areas?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No Sir, Reports received by the Government do not indicate that the smuggling activity