

Export of Cement to Iran

577. SHRI MATI SUSHJLA SHANKAR
ADIVAREKAR :

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SUL-
TAN: SHRIMATI SUMITRA G.
KUL-KARNI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have entered into
an agreement with Iran to export more cement
to that country;

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement;
and I

(c) the internal demand and availability
of cement in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a)
and (b) The State Trading Corporation entered
into an agreement in April 1974 for export of
cement to Iran, valued at Rs. 8.6 crores for
shipment during April 1974 to June 1975.

(c) The internal demand for cement was
estimated at about 19 million tonnes at the
end of 1973-74 and production at 14.61
million tonnes in that year. The capacity for
cement production is estimated to be 19.78
million tonnes.

Imported raw materials with MMTC

578. SHRI B. P. NAGARAJA MUR-
THY: SHRI B.
RACHAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any
decision over the non-lifting by trade and
Industry of imported raw materials lying with
the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation
and other canalising agencies ;

(b) whether there is any proposal under
Governments consideration to cut import
replenishment licences issued to actual users
and other concerned interest; and

(c) if so, what are details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a)
Steps are being taken to facilitate early lifting
by trade and industry of imported raw
materials lying with the canalising agencies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of cotton

579. SHRI B. P. NAGARAJA MUR-
THY: SHRI B. RACHAIAH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has
decided to import part of its requirements of
medium staple cotton from the U.S.A., and

(b) whether any negotiations have been
held with the Soviet Union also and if so, the
details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a)
Depending on the gap between supply and
demand and the anticipated export volumes of
cotton textiles, there may be need for
importing medium staple cottons required for
export production. While the U.S.A. can
supply medium staple cotton required by us,
the question of importing from the U.S.A.
and/or other source is still under
consideration.

(b) The possibility of import of some
medium staple cotton from U.S.S.R. has been
mooted during recent Indo-USSR Trade
Talks. No decision has as yet been taken nor
any Agreement signed in this behalf.