

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE
SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A
statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Export of Indian engineering goods
(including iron and steel products) to Soviet
Union during the last three years is given
below : —

(In Rs. crores)	
Year	Exports
1969	14.14
1970	20.07
1971	17.93
	(Provisional)

(b) Under the provisions of the bilateral trade
agreement between India and the USSR,
payments for Indian exports are made in Indian
rupees from rupee accounts maintained by the
Bank of Foreign Trade of USSR in India.

COVER TO INDIAN EXPORTERS AGAINST
LOSSES DUE TO WORLD CURRENCY FLUCTUA-
TIONS

*305. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide
a cover to Indian exporters against possible
losses due to world currency fluctuations; and

(b) whether any decision has been taken by
Government in this regard and if so, the details
thereof?

THE MINISTER OF
FOREIGN

TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b)
The Reserve Bank of India is already providing
cover through authorised dealers in foreign
exchange to Indian exporters in respect of £
Sterling upto a period of six months. The
question of providing cover

for a longer period and for other currencies is
under examination by a Working Group set up by
Ministry of Finance.

CLOSURE OF INDIA FOOD PRODUCTS OFFICE AT
BRUSSELS

*306. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the
Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to
state :

(a) whether Government have closed down
the India Food Products Office Brussels; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.
C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The work assigned to I Foreign
Office can be done economically by S.T.C. :

HARASSMENT OF P-ARCFI CLERKS AT ALL-
AHABAD

*307. SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased
to state :

(a) whether Government have received
memoranda signed by parcel clerks posted at
Allahabad regarding their harassment owing to
inadequate supply of labour by the Cooperative
Society :

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the
matter;

(c) the number of other complaints received
by Government regarding delay in removal of
consignments due to short supply of labour during
the last three years together with the action taken
in the matter;

(d) whether it is a fact that the society
does not supply the requisite number of
labourers per day as per the terms of con-
tract; and

(e) if so, whether any deductions are made* from
the handling bills for not supplying the labour as
per the terms of the contract?