UDYOG VYAPAR PATRIKA

705. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the publication of 'Udyog Vyaoar Patrika' a Hindi monthly journal is being revived:
 - (b) if so, when; and
 - (c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD, SHAFI QURESHI), (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) The clearance from the Screening Committee for reviving the publication of this journal is expected shortly and the actual publication will follow upon the receipt of the clearance-

IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS FROM RUSSIA

706. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an agreement for the import of agricultural implements is likely to be concluded shortly with Russia;
- (b) if so, what would be the main terms of the agreement; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that a small tractor is likely to be included in these implements and if so, what would be the price of such a ti actor in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Madam.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Tractors are usually imported from U.S.S.R, in the 14 to 20 Horse Power range, but these are not classified as agricultural implements. No agreement for such tractors has so far been concluded this year.

AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL TO LIBERALISE EXPORT QUOTA FROM INDIA

707. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact 1hat the Government of Australia are considering

an Indian request for liberalisation of quota restrictions on the exports from India;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by what time the curbs are likely to be lifted?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c) The Australian Government have, from time to time, considered requests for the inclusion of additional items of export interest to Less-Developed Countries, including India, at also for increase in quotas for the items included in the Australian Scheme of Tariff Preferences for Less-Developed Countries. The last list of such items was announced by the Australian Government in February this year.

COAL MINING FROM DAMODAR RIVER BED

708. SHRI M. ASAD MADANI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased t0 state :

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the mining of coal from the river bed of river Damodar in the District of Hazaribagh in Bihar by some private entrepreneurs during the summer when the river goes dry; and
- (b) whether any lease-licences have been granted by Government for such mining operations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b) The State Government of Bihar are aware of such coal mining and it has been reported by them that private parties hold statutory leases for areas comprised of Damodar river; there are, however, certain disputes pending in the Court and the parties have been allowed to continue in working possession till the Court cases are decided.

INDEFINITE SUSPENSION OF TRAIN SERVICES BETWEEN KHADA AND CHITAUNI

709. SHRI M. ASAD MADANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleas ed to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that passenger trains between Khada and Chitauni