

by about 6.1 million kilograms. This shortfall was mainly due to the cumulative effect of various factors, the more important of which were:—

- (i) the somewhat unsettled conditions that prevailed in the tea market following devaluation;
- (ii) reduced off-take of tea by the USSR and the UAR;
- (iii) the relatively higher incidence of the export duty imposed at a flat rate of Rs. 2 per kilogram immediately following devaluation on medium and low priced teas;
- (iv) strikes and go-slow tactics by workers in the tea gardens, transport services and the Calcutta docks which upset arrivals of tea to Calcutta and despatches for exports; and
- (v) the rising pressure of internal consumption.

In order to stimulate exports, the following steps were taken:

- (i) The levy of export duty at a flat rate was replaced by a levy based on slab-cum value basis in November, 1966. This gave considerable relief to exports of medium and low priced teas;
- (ii) In the Budget proposals for 1967-68 already before the House, a rebate of 24 paise per kilogram has been allowed on the export duty payable under the new *ad-valorem* rates of export duty proposed. This will not only afford considerable further relief in export duty on teas exported but also simplify considerably the assessment and levy of the duty;
- (iii) The promotional activities of the Tea Board in foreign countries both by way of participation in joint campaigns to promote consumption of tea as a beverage and of unational efforts to promote the image of Indian tea abroad were continued and intensified vigorously. Joint Promotional

campaigns have been organised in the U.K., U.S.A., Canada, West Germany, France, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. The measures taken to promote the image of Indian tea abroad include intensive consumer sampling through participation in exhibitions, demonstrations and displays in departmental stores, prominent hotels and important social gatherings, advertising through the press and radio, promoting introduction of Indian packs of tea by the leading blenders and packers, maintaining adequate public relations etc. the techniques varying in emphasis and operation from country to country.

Recognising the need for increasing the production base as a long-term measure to achieve substantial increase in exports, Government have extended various concessions to the tea plantation industry like development allowance for new planting and replanting, supply of tea machinery on hire-purchase basis, and promoting the formation of cooperatives amongst the small growers.]

DEPOSITS OF IRON ORE IN KOZHIKODE

*372. SHRI K. DAMODARAN:
SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether geological surveys have established the existence of iron ore deposits in Kozhikode district of Kerala; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken in hand any feasibility studies for commercial exploitation of the ore?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. M. CHANNA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. Geological exploration has indicated the existence of magnetite quartzite iron ore deposits in Kozhikode district.

(b) Possibilities of commercial exploitation of these deposits are under consideration of the Government of Kerala.

CLOSED CASHEW FACTORIES IN KERALA

*373. SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON:

SHRI K. DAMODARAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been submitted to the Government of India to take over the 24 cashew factories which have remained closed in Kerala since last year, through a State-owned corporation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) and (b) No such scheme has been submitted to the Government.

EXPORT OF KHADI

*374. SHRI MAHAMMED HANEEF: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi is being exported to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the names of the countries to which it is being exported; and

(c) the value of khadi exported during the year 1966?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

COMMITTEE ON FLOUR MILLS

*375. SHRI K. SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Flour Milling Committee headed by Shri A. K. Roy. has submitted its report;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether Government have accepted all the recommendations of the Committee; and

(d) the extent to which it has been implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About a month back.

(c) and (d) The recommendations made by the Flour Milling Committee are under consideration.

CONTROL OVER JESSOP & Co. LTD.

*376. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended the control over Jessop & Co. Ltd., Calcutta; and

(b) if so, under what condition?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) and (b) The control over the management of Jessop & Co. Ltd., Calcutta has been extended for a further period of one year with effect from the 15th May, 1967 under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, in the public interest.

EXPORT TRADE AFTER DEVALUATION

*377. SHRI NARINDER SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) extent to which exports have been boosted after devaluation;