

Britain's application for membership of the European Economic Community the desirability of removal of tariff and quota restrictions on Indian exports in the Six countries of the European Common Market, to bridge the huge adverse balance of trade which India has with these countries, has constantly been brought to the notice of the Governments of the countries concerned. Those efforts are being continued.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION STUDY ON LOW BIRTH WEIGHT OF BABIES IN INDIA

*432. **SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR:** Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Health Organisation made a study of the problem of low birth weights of babies in India; and

(b) if so, whether they have arrived at a conclusion that this is due to malnutrition of pregnant mothers?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Health Organisation Expert Committee considered that a number of unfavourable factors such as malnutrition, infections, fatigue and over work, bad housing, frequent child bearing and inadequate educational and health facilities, which affected the health of the mothers, were responsible for low birth weights of babies.

TRADE WITH NORTH AND SOUTH VIET-NAM

*439. **SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what was the volume of trade between India and North Viet-Nam and India and South Viet-Nam during 1960-61 and 1961-62; and

(b) what are the commodities that are being exchanged between India and those two countries?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) The position of India's trade with North Viet-Nam and South Viet-Nam was as under:—

	(Value in lakhs of Rs.)	
	1960-61	1961-62
Imports from North Viet-Nam into India	0.01	0.06
Exports from India to North Viet-Nam	0.39	20.69
Imports from South Viet-Nam into India	0.04	0.12
Exports from India to South Viet-Nam	48.54	45.04

(b) The important commodities of export are jute bags, leather cloth, shellac, cotton piecegoods and jute and jute manufactures, internal combustion diesel and semi-diesel engines, sewing machines, linseed oil, shellac, textile fabrics etc. Imports have been very small.

PROGRESS OF KOYNA PROJECT

*440. **SHRI BABA SAHEB SAVNEKAR:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the state at which the Koyna Project would reach by March 1963;

(b) whether stage II of the said Project is progressing according to schedule;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount of loan sanctioned by World Bank for this Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a)

All the four Generating Units of 60 MW each under Staged have been commissioned.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) For Koyna Stage-I, the World Bank authorised in 1959 a loan amounting to \$ 18.70 million. As regards Koyna Stage-II Project, a loan of \$ 17.5 million has been authorised by International Development Association (sister concern of World Bank).

LOANS FOR FANS TO CLASS IV GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

*443. SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 1154 in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th September, 1962 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision regarding the advance of loans to Class IV employees in Delhi whose quarters are not provided with fans;

(b) if so, what are the details of the decision taken; and

(c) if a decision has not yet been taken in the matter, by when a decision is expected to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) to (c) Government have decided to grant loans to Class IV employees for the purchase of fans. A scheme for the grant of such loans is being worked out.

TERMINATION OF SERVICES OF C.P.W.D. EMPLOYEES

*445. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that services of some employees of the

C.P.W.D. have been terminated recently because they were 55 years of age;

(b) if so, what is the number of such employees;

(c) whether the new rules of retirement age are not applicable to them; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a), (c) and (d) With effect from 1st December, 1962, the age of compulsory retirement of Central Government servants is 58 years except in the case of pre-1938 ministerial Government servants and Class IV staff who can be retained upto the age of 60 years. The appointing authority may, however, require a Government servant to retire after he attains the age of 55 years on three months' notice without assigning any reasons.

(b) The number of such persons can only be very small as the orders extending the age limit were issued hardly three months ago.

IMPORTED CARS PURCHASED BY STATE TRADING CORPORATION

*447. SHRI M. R. SHERVANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of imported cars purchased by the State Trading Corporation from diplomats and others since the imposition of restriction on sale of such cars to public directly, i.e. 1st December, 1962;

(b) the number of imported cars (i) in stock with the State Trading Corporation at present and (ii) sold during the period from 1st December, 1962 to the end of February, 1963; and

(c) the names of persons to whom the cars were sold and the price at which each was sold?