

avenues for India's export trade with China?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIX, Annexure No. 65.]

(b) At Peking from the 19th of September to the 19th of October.

(c) Judging from the success of souvenir sales and enquiries made at the Exhibition an increase in India's export trade with China may be expected.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: From the statement, I find that the expenditure outside India is about Rs. 10 lakhs and odd and the expected expenditure is Rs. 1½ lakhs. May I know whether the entire amount was spent at the exhibition displayed in China or it refers to some other countries also?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The exhibition in China is the only exclusively Indian exhibition in a foreign country so far.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether it is a fact that several other demands have come forth for shifting the site of the exhibition to other cities of China?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: There was a request for extending the Exhibition in Peking, but we could not afford it.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that there was a demand from Formosa also for shifting this Exhibition to that place?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: There was no demand like that.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, whether the existing exhibits have been sold, or they are being brought back?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: As has been said, Sir, some of the exhibits were

sold as souvenirs with the permission of the Government of China.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know how many exhibitions are contemplated in other countries besides China?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: We do not contemplate any wholly Indian exhibition in this year.

#### PRODUCTION OF LIGHT ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES WHICH HAVE AN EXPORT MARKET

\*562. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of increase in the production since the First Five Year Plan of the light electrical industries which have an export market;

(b) whether the impact of import restrictions has been healthy on the growth of these industries; and

(c) if so, whether Government have considered their export potentialities and the consequent need to revise their production targets?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIX, Annexure No. 66.]

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have taken certain steps to promote export of light electrical goods. It is, however, not possible to assess the requirements for export purposes for all the goods. The present targets will, it is hoped, meet such requirements.

SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Sir, are these industries now self-sufficient with regard to home consumption?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes, they are quite self-sufficient. And as the

hon. Member can see from the Statement, there has been a remarkable growth of production in the last one year.

SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Sir, in consideration of the potentiality for home consumption, will the Government propose to raise the production target for these industries and if necessary, lower down the target for other industries which have consumer resistance?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, already we have revised and upgraded the target for light electrical industries by 50 per cent. It does not mean that we should lower the target for other industries. Perhaps elsewhere also we may have to raise the targets.

#### FALL IN THE PRICE AND EXPORT OF BLACK PEPPER

\*563. DR. P. J. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any fall in the price and export of black pepper during the past three years, if so, what are the causes of this fall; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to expand exports and to obtain economic prices for this commodity?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Yes, Sir. The fall is due to increased world production of black and white pepper.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

Realising the need for promotion of exports of pepper Government have set up a composite Export Promotion Council for Cashew and Pepper with headquarters at Cochin. Both Government and Cashew and Pepper interests are represented on this Council. The Council's principal functions are as follows:—

(i) To conduct extensive propaganda in foreign countries for strengthening existing markets and exploring new ones.

(ii) To conduct market surveys in foreign countries to assess the requirements of the different countries.

(iii) To evolve schemes for introduction of quality control on exports of cashew and pepper.

(iv) To send trade delegations to foreign countries.

(v) Examination and settlement of trade disputes.

(vi) The Council participated in International Fairs and Exhibitions.

(vii) Displayed samples in Government of India's showroom abroad.

(viii) Distributed free samples abroad through Government of India Trade Missions.

The State Trading Corporation are making efforts to promote the export of pepper to countries whose foreign trade is canalised through State owned or State sponsored organisations.

Some measures of success in finding new markets for pepper has been achieved. Diversification of export trade of this commodity will enable exporters to get better prices.

DR. P. J. THOMAS: May I know, Sir, if any delegation has been sent abroad in this connection?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Yes, the Pepper and Cashew Development Council has sent a delegation abroad.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: Does the hon. Minister know that this precipitous fall in the price of pepper to the extent of nearly 50 per cent. has caused great hardship to the producers of pepper?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: That is inevitable because the high prices were due to adventitious circumstances.