

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Government is already selling packed edible oil (imported RBD Palmolein) in 2 kg. tin and 1 kg. pouches through PDS outlets.

(b) The main objectives for selling packed edible oils under PDS are:

(i) to ensure good quality and correct quantity for consumer; and

(ii) to prevent leakage of edible oils supplied under PDS to unauthorised channels.

(c) and (d) The prices of packed oils are higher than loose oil due to additional cost of packing materials, higher filling losses, packing charges, etc. As and when major quantity or entire quantity of PDS oils is supplied in small packs, the cost of packing is expected to be reduced per unit.

[English]

Import of consumer electronic goods

528. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether electronics consumer items are proposed to be allowed to be freely imported as a part of new policy package;

(b) if so whether this new policy package is likely to help domestic electronic industry of these products and the consumer as well; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There is no proposal to allow import of Consumer Electronic items freely.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Sending of an Indian to Moon

529. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to send an Indian to moon with the help of American or Russian Government; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal, at present, to send an Indian to the Moon.

[Translation]

Applications from Private Sugar Mills for increasing production capacity

530. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from private sugar mills for increasing their production capacity, State-wise;

(b) the names of the Sugar Mills, which have sent in such applications; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) As on 30-6-1991, 20 applications are pending consideration from Private Sugar Mills for increasing their production capacity. State-wise names of these mills are given at the attached statement.

(c) The Licensing Policy guidelines for Sugar Industry for the VIIIth Five Year Plan are presently being reviewed by the Government. These applications would be considered as per the policy formulated after the aforesaid review.