

Public Enterprises Survey 1989-90 placed on the Table of the House on 27-2-1991.

Average Retail Price of Common Salt

3773. SHRI BHAGEY GOBAR-DHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the average retail price of common salt/iodised salt respectively in July 1990 and July, 1991:

(b) whether it is possible to roll back the average price to the July 1990 level;

(c) if so, the measures taken in regard thereto; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) The average retail price of common salt in July '90 and July '91 was Rs. 1.20 and Rs. 1.50 respectively. The average retail price of iodised salt both in July '90 and July '91 was Rs. 1.87.

(b) to (d) There has been a marginal increase in the average retail price of common salt while there has been no change in the average retail price of iodised salt in July '90 and July '91. Though there is no statutory control over prices of salt, the Government have been taking various measures like daily monitoring of prices, holding of meetings with the manufacturers and coordinating with Railway for movement in order to ensure that the prices of edible salt remain steady.

Production and Demand of Salt

3774. SHRI BHAGEY GOBAR-DHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the production each of common salt and iodised salt during the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto end of July);

(b) the average annual demand for domestic consumption in the country of common salt/iodised salt; and

(c) the average cost of production of common salt/iodised salt during the aforesaid periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) The production of common and iodised salt during the preceding three years is as under:—

(In tonnes)

Year	Common Salt	Iodised Salt
1989-90	83,41,400	22,56,800
1990-91	101,41,100	25,04,400
1991-92 . . .	32,52,800	4,83,600

(Upto May, 1991)

(b) The average annual demand for domestic consumption of common and iodised salt respectively is 24.41.000 and 26.16.000 tonnes.

(c) The cost of production of common and iodised salt during the preceding three years is as under:—

(Figures in Rs. per tonne)

Year	Common Salt	Iodised Salt
1989-90 . . .	100-140	130-185
1990-91 . . .	120-165	155-215
1991-92 . . .	135-180	175-235

[Translation]

Incentives to manufacturers of button and jewellery from Oyster Shell

3775. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any cottage industry manufacturing buttons and jewellery from oyster shell in Mehasi in east Champaran district of Bihar;

(b) if so, the number of units thereof functioning at present and the num-

ber of workers engaged therein and the daily wages being given to them;

(c) whether the Government have ascertained the measures for further development thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are about 10 units manufacturing handmade jewellery from oyster shell and about 110 craftsperson engaged in this trade. The daily wage ranges from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per day.

(c) and (d) The Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) has set up one Marketing & Service Extension Centre at Madhubani to cater to the needs of craftsmen. This centre has been rendering a package of services to the craftsmen of Mehasi, such as opportunities for direct marketing, raw material assistance, credit facilities, assistance for improved tools & techniques and design assistance.

Broadcast of Sansad Sameeksha

3776. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sansad Sameeksha was broadcast before news previously;

(b) if so, whether any change has been made in this programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) All India Radio continues to broadcast 'Sansad Sameeksha' in Hindi and 'Today in Parliament' in English everyday at 2030 hours when Parliament is in session.

Prior to 1988 'Sansad Sameeksha' in Hindi and 'Weekly Review of Parliament' in English was telecast by Regional Kendras of Doordarshan once a week during Parliament Sessions. Delhi Doordarshan was telecasting 'Sansad Samachar' in Hindi at 1930 hours and 'Parliament News' in English at 2305 hours on the Delhi LPT Net Work regularly.

(b) to (d) Since the Budget Session of 1988 'Sansad Samachar' in Hindi and 'Parliament News' in English are telecast at 2150 hours and 2230 hours respectively in the National Programme. There has been no change in the broadcast timings of these programmes on All India Radio.

[English]

Projects of PFPL in States

3777. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to allow Pensi Foods Pvt. Ltd. (PFPL) to set up its projects in Karnataka and at other places in the country; and

(b) if so, the locations thereof and when these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Financial assistance to Karnataka for Industrial Development

3778. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have sought financial assistance from Centre for industrial development in Karnataka State; and