

Rs. 100 to Rs. 150, Rs. 100 to Rs. 160; and Rs. 80 to Rs. 130 respectively.

(c) Low realisation from the exports of these items is due mainly to the intensive competition in the foreign markets.

**Nylon Yarn Factory in Kerala**

479. { Shri P. Kunhan:  
Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned the setting up of a Nylon Yarn factory in Kerala;

(b) if so, when the construction will start; and

(c) the details of this scheme?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Agartala Bidi Silpa Samabaya Samiti**

480. **Shri Biren Dutta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Agartala Bidi Silpa Samabaya Samiti" is a workers' co-operative;

(b) whether the Samiti had prayed for loan in 1960; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) be in affirmative, the reasons for not granting any loan?

**The Ministry of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Samiti did not raise the necessary paid-up capital as required under the provisions of the Co-operative Act to qualify them for a loan.

**Export of Medicinal Herbs**

481. **Shri Bade:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of foreign exchange earned in 1961-62 by exporting medicinal herbs from India;

(b) whether any special attempt is being made to increase these exports by finding out new herbs which can be exported;

(c) whether it is a fact that "Kuth" a medicinal herb from Lahaul valley could be exported; and

(d) if so, what are the potentialities?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Medicinal Herbs are not separately classified as the items of export. The broad classification viz., 'Plants, seeds, flowers and parts of plants, not elsewhere specified, mainly for use in medicine or perfumery' is amplified to cover all such items including roots and seeds which are not exclusively used for medicinal purposes. The total export of the items, so classified, is Rs. 2.8 crores during 1961-62.

(b) Yes, Sir. Central Indian Medicinal Plants Organisation, Central Drug Research Institute, Forest Research Stations and National Chemical Laboratory, Poona are taking steps to find out new herbs with a view to promote the export of medicinal herbs.

(c) and (d). Actually "Kuth" is not a herb. The root of the plant "Sausurea Lappa Clarke" is known as "Kuth". "Kuth" root from Lahaul valley was a good foreign exchange earner till 1961-62. The demand has fallen and now there is not much scope of exporting "Kuth" root from India. However, the extraction of costus root oil from "Kuth" is being developed for which there may be a scope for export.