

dia and Japan has been discussed during the visit;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to suggest Japan-India Business Cooperation Committees to explore the possibilities of Japanese investment in Mizoram; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Chairman of the Japan India Business Cooperation Committee, Dr. Rokuro Ishikawa, visited India from 27th to 30th Jan., 1992. He led a 100-member Japanese delegation for the 23rd meeting of the India-Japan Business Cooperation Committee. During the meeting, discussions were held to strengthen the bilateral trade between the two countries. The issues of inviting Japanese investment to India were also discussed. The Japanese side was apprised of the policy reforms recently taken by Govt. of India which evoked good response from Japanese side.

(e) and (f). No, Sir.

The India-Japan Business Cooperation Committee is set up by the Apex bodies of the industry of both the countries and discussions are held on the industry level.

Japanese Investment in Indian Core Sector

1344. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have requested the Government of Japan to invest in the Indian core sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the response of the Government of Japan thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). With a view to re-structure India's economy, the Government has recently announced some economic reforms. As a part of that, items earlier reserved exclusively for Public Sector, have now been reviewed to be opened to the private sector selectively. This has also been the Govt.'s policy to welcome foreign investment to the development of India's industrial base. In this direction, proposals received for investment from foreign countries including Japan, are considered on merits.

[Translation]

Blackmarketing of Ration in Delhi

1345. DR. PARSHURAM GANGWAR:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases relating to the blackmarketing of ration in Delhi come to the notice during the last six months;

(b) the action taken against the said blackmarketeers; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the blackmarketing of ration in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Delhi Administration has reported that complaints of irregularities in 256 Fair Prices

Shops and 75 Kerosene Depots came to the notice of their Food Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department during the last six months.

(b) FIRs have been lodged against 28 Fair Price Shops and 8 Kerosenes Oil Licencees during this period. Department action is being initiated against 232 Fair Price Shops and 67 Kerosene Oil Licencees.

(c) The U.T. Administration maintains a strict watch on the functioning of Fair Price Shops and Kerosenes Depots. Surprise checkings/raids are conducted on the basis of intelligence gathered and on complaints received. A Control Room has been set up for receiving complaints from the public. Criminal/Departmental proceedings are launched against defaulters.

[English]

**Potato Storage Unit at Hassan,
Karnataka**

1346. SHRIG. MADE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a potato storage unit at Hassan in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount proposed to be related during 1992-93 there for; and

(d) the capacity of the proposed storage unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (d). No. Sir, Cold storage are being set up by various agencies, institutions including private entrepreneurs, public sector corporations and cooperative societies on the basis

of the requirement of each agency, keeping in view the storable surplus.

There are two Cold Storages in Hassan for storage of potatoes, fruits etc. No. application for any additional capacity is pending with DMI. Licencing further capacity will be considered on merits as and when any application is received.

Drug License In States

1347. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI TARA CHAND
KHADELWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to withdraw State Governments' power to issue licenses for manufacturing vaccines and certain other products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the State Government's thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS. (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). The subject matter pertains to the Ministry of Health. Therefore information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

MATS for Delhi

1348. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to contact a foreign firm to build and operate rapid-based transit system for Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the foreign firm is likely to be