

alloted to the General Managers/Managers/Asstt. Managers of hotels/motels and travellers' lodges of the Corporation and to recommend suitable standards for such accommodation in respect of different establishments.

#### Export of Onions, Potatoes and Dals

855. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:  
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much onions, potatoes and dals were exported to foreign countries during the last two years;

(b) whether the prices of aforesaid articles went up on account of export; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the prices of these articles?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Export figures are given below:—

Items	Quantity		Value	
	· 000 tonnes		Rs. Lakhs	
	1975-76		April—Dec. 1975	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Onions . . . . .	112·0	1385	124	1370·25
Potatoes . . . . .	30·0	348·17	24	364·95
Dals . . . . .	6·9	220·00	7	226·64

(b) The export of these items has been of small quantities compared to production. Even small exports can affect domestic prices if due precautions are not taken. The increase in domestic prices of these items has been due to a number of factors.

(c) The exports of dals, onions and potatoes have been for the present stopped.

#### Rise in Wholesale Prices Index

856. SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the continuing rise in the wholesale price index;

(b) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken to arrest the rise;

(c) whether Government have examined that the rise is not solely due to unscrupulous profiteering by certain members of the business community; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to bring the offenders to book?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Wholesale Price Index rose by 11.9 per cent during 1976-77. In April and May 1977 there has been a rise of 2.8 per cent, while in the corresponding period