

person, viz, Shri Vanshraj, a resident of Nakhas, Thana Pukhta Sarai, Distt. Jonpur, managed to escape on the appearance of police party. A regular case in this regard has also been registered by the Locknow City Police and a search party led by a senior police officer has been sent to Calcutta in search of the fourth accused.

Restriction on Imports for Processed Foods and Flavouring Essences

7049. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the new Import policy and state :

(a) the reason why the imports are restricted to 10 per cent of F. O. B. value of exports for processed foods ;

(b) the reasons why there is a further restriction of 10 per cent of the import licence value for flavouring essence and ;

(c) the reasons why the exporter cannot utilise 100 per cent of his import entitlement for importing flavouring essences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Under the Import Policy for Registered Exporters, rate of import replenishment is fixed keeping in view the value of the relevant item (s) used in the export product vis-a-vis F. O. B. value of export product.

(b) Further restriction on the import of particular item (s) within overall import entitlement is also imposed keeping in view the criterion of extent of utilisation of the relevant item (s) in the export product.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Decline in Performance of STC

7050. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been a decline in the performance of State Trading Corporation in recent years ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) the measures Government have taken to improve and streamline the Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government continuously monitors the functioning of STC. In order to enable STC to discharge its role as a premier trading organisation, STC has been directed to evolve a procedure for monitoring imports to ensure that these are at internationally competitive prices and are supplied to consumers at lowest possible price. With regard to exports, STC has been asked to take up the challenge in developing new markets and products, as well as to set itself a time frame in which it would penetrate identified thrust markets with carefully chosen commodities.

Licences for Opening of New Branches of Gramin Banks to NABARD

7051. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether consequent upon the transfer of the functions of supervision of the Gramin Banks to the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development, the opening of the branches and issues of licences for them has also been transferred to this bank by delinking from Reserve Bank of India ;

(b) if so, the date with effect from which this has been done ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to transfer from Reserve Bank the function of issuing of licences for opening