

**Stabilization of Coffee Prices in International Market**

4893. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take up the issue of stabilising the coffee prices in the international market with the other coffee producing countries ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b) India is already a signatory of the International Coffee Agreement whose objectives include stabilization of coffee prices in the international market.

**Amount Spent on Dearness Allowance to Central Government Employees**

4894. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent on dearness allowance paid to the Union Government employees during the year 1985 ;

(b) whether the employees have demanded interim relief pending submission of the Pay Commission report ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The expenditure on dearness allowance sanctioned during the financial year 1985-86 to Central Government employees is estimated at Rs. 140 crores.

(b) and (c) In view of the demands of the employees for interim relief pending submission of the report of the Fourth Pay Commission the terms of reference of the pay Commission were modified in order to enable the Commission to consider relief of

an interim nature taking into account such interim relief sanctioned in August 1983 effective from 1.6.1983. The interim relief recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission was sanctioned in April, 1985. Any further interim relief is for the Fourth Pay Commission to consider and recommended to the Government.

**News Captioned "Cofeposa Couple's Dramatic Departure for USA"**

4895. SHRI P. R. KUMARA-MANGALAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news report about the dramatic escape to USA of a couple belonging to Ahmedabad involved in smuggling out foreign exchange currency worth over Rs. 46 lakhs as reported in 'Clarity' of December, 1985 ;

(b) if so, full facts of the case ; and

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Reports received by the Government indicate that S/Shri Mrugesh Jaikrishna, Asutosh Prafulchandra Nanavathy and Chandrakant Shivabhai Amin were arrested on 20.3.1985 by officers of Air Intelligence Unit, Bombay in connection with their attempts at smuggling foreign currency worth Rs. 46.63 lakhs out of India. All the three persons were subsequently detained under COFEPOSA Act on 9.4.1985. Their cases came up before the Advisory Board on 12.9.1985 and on the basis of the opinion of the Advisory Board the Maharashtra Government revoked the detention orders of Shri Mrugesh Jaikrishna and Shri Asutosh Prafulchandra Nanavathy on 23.9.85 but confirmed the detention of Shri Chandrakant Shivabhai Amin. In this connection Mrs. Paru M. Jaikrishna wife of Shri Mrugesh Jaikrishna was also arrested on 30.9.1985 and she was released on bail.