

Buffer Stock of Raw Jute

5030. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jute Corporation India started purchasing raw jute in September, 1985 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Jute Corporation of India has built up a buffer stock of raw jute this year in addition to the requirements of nationalised jute mills ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b) Jute Corporation of India started purchasing

raw jute from early August, 1985 and have made a record purchase of about 20 lakh bales up to 11.12.1985, in association with the State Cooperatives. Further purchases are in progress.

(c) to (e) Besides meeting the raw jute requirements of NJMC mills, Jute Corporation of India, in association with State Cooperatives, is purchasing raw jute under price support operation to protect the interests of jute growers.

Purchase of Raw Jute by JCI

5031. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state ;

(a) the quantity of raw jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India upto the end of November, 1985, month-wise figure of State-wise purchase ;

(b) whether the above purchase amounts to 33 per cent of production of raw jute this year ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor :

(d) whether the above purchase was made at the rate of minimum support price plus Rs. 25/- ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) A Statement is given below.

(b) and (c) Assuming that about 75% of the estimated crop of 85—90 lakh bales has arrived in the market by mid-December 1985, the total procurement made upto 12.12.1985 by JCI/Cooperatives works out to about 30—32 per cent. Further purchases are in progress.

(d) and (e) Jute Corporation of India purchased a total quantity of about 1.34 lakh bales under its limited commercial operation within the price band of Rs. 25/- per quintal above the minimum statutory price fixed by the Government.

Statement

The total quantity of raw purchased by Jute Corporation of India in association with Cooperatives, month-wise during the current jute season upto 12.12 85 is as under :—

Month	(Qty. in lakh bales of 180 Kgs. each)		
	JCI	Cooperatives	Total
August	0.26	0.03	0.29
September	2.91	1.10	4.01
October	4.75	2.26	7.01
November	4.17	2.89	7.06
December	1.14	0.82	1.96
(upto 12.12.85)			
Total :	13.23	7.10	20.33

Details of State-wise purchases upto 12.12.85 are as under :—

States	Purchases
West Bengal	13.33
Assam	2.80
Bihar	2.44
Orissa	0.62
Meghalaya	0.11
Tripura	0.68
Andhra Pradesh	0.33
U. P.	0.02
Total :	20.33

Preparation of Black Lists of Customs Officials in the Ports of Cochin, Mangalore, Madras, Bombay etc.

5032. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether independent investigation teams are sent by his Ministry to investigate and prepare the black list of Customs officials in the ports of Cochin, Mangalore, Madras, Bombay etc. ;

(b) whether their reports have been submitted ; and

(c) if so, the details of their investigations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) There is no black list of Customs officials prepared by the Ministry nor are any investigations made for this purpose. However, the Department prepares lists of gazetted officers jointly with C.B.I. in respect of whose integrity there are complaints or suspicions. These lists are under constant review.

Amendment of Income Tax Act Exempting Presumptive Income from Residential House

5033. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several State Governments and the Central Council for Urban Development and Local Government have time and again requested the Government to exempt the 'presumptive income' for at least one residential house actually used for dwelling by an individual, from the levy of income tax ;

(b) if so, whether any steps are contemplated by the Union Government to amend the Income Tax Act so as to implement the aforesaid recommendations in the near future with a view to rationalise the tax structure and encourage those people living in urban areas to build more houses for their own use ; and

(c) if no, the reasons for not acceding to the aforesaid proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a), (b) and (c) This Ministry has received a proposal to totally exempt the income from a self occupied property. This proposal had emanated from the recommendation made by the Central Council of Ministers of Local Government, Urban Development and Housing. The proposal is under the consideration of the Government. The decision in respect of the proposal will be reflected in the Direct Taxes (Amendment) Bill to be introduced in the Parliament next year.

Supply of Iron Scrap to Metal Scrap Trade Corporation

5034. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum and value of iron-scrap supplied to the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation in last three years by the Bombay Port Trust (BPT) ;

(b) whether it is a fact that BPT has suspended the supply of iron scraps with the result that the activities of 40 units have stopped ship breaking ; and

(c) if so, the effect thereof on the labour ?