

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No State was in overdraft as on 30th June, 1986.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Excise duty on P-Xylene

3255. SHRI JANAKRAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that P-Xylene used for manufacture of DMT has been exempted from excise duty and countervailing excise duty under Finance Act, 1985;

(b) if so, the quantum of reduction in the price of DMT as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to see that the prices of DMT are reduced proportionately by local manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Paraxylene consumed captively in the factory of production in the manufacture of DMT has been exempted from excise duty with effect from 2.4.86. Imported paraxylene for the manufacture of DMT has also been exempted from additional duty of customs (countervailing duty) with effect from 16.4.86.

(b) and (c). The above exemptions, broadly, continue the exemption available even earlier. Moreover, the price of a product depends on a variety of factors such as, demand and supply, besides the incidence of excise and customs duties.

#### Setting up of JCI Zonal Office in Assam

3256. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to start Zonal Office of Jute Corporation of India in Assam;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any representation in this regard from Jute Corporation of India, Assam Unit; and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A representation to this effect was submitted by the Jute Corporation of India Assam Employees Union to the Government of Assam which has been forwarded to the Union Government.

(c) JCI has 3 Regional Offices in Assam located at Guwahati, Dhubri and Nawgaon. JCI does not have a Zonal Office in any of the jute and mesta growing States and, hence there seems no need to set up a Zonal Office in Assam.

#### Losses suffered by Coffee Houses in the capital

3257. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coffee Houses in the capital are running in loss, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the State-wise details of Coffee Houses running in loss;

(c) the reasons for the loss; and

(d) whether Government propose to take over these Coffee Houses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

#### Statement

The Coffee Houses run by the Coffee Board were started for promotion of coffee and also for holding the price line and not as commercial ventures. The excess of expen-