

retain part of their foreign earnings as a measure to boost export;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of this proposals; and

(c) the manner in which the retained earnings will be allowed to be utilised ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :** (a) A proposal to allow Indian exporters to retain part of their foreign exchange was considered but it could not be accepted.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Undertaking of public issues by companies

3346. **DR. B. L. SHAIKESH :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of his Ministry to permit investment and finance companies to underwrite public issues made by the Companies;

(b) whether any stipulations are laid down in this proposal, if so, what; and

(c) the reaction of the Stock Exchanges in the country thereto ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have asked for the views of the stock exchanges in regard to the proposal of permitting investment/finance companies to underwrite public issues of capital made by companies subject to the following safeguards/norms :

(i) Such companies shall be listed on one or more recognised stock exchanges and shall have a paid up equity capital and net worth of at least Rs. 2 crores and Rs. 3 crores respectively.

(ii) Underwriting by such companies in the aggregate shall not exceed 50

per cent of the total issues underwritten of a company and underwriting by any one company shall not exceed 5 per cent of the total issue underwritten of the company.

(iii) The total expense of such companies due to underwriting shall be within such limit as the stock exchanges may fix from time to time.

(iv) The companies must have been in existence for atleast 5 years and should have made profits in the last 3 years.

(c) The views of all the Stock Exchanges in the country are yet to be received.

#### Import of edible oil

3347. **DR. B. L. SHAIKESH :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether edible oils, including industrial sunflower oil, palm kernal oil and palm acid oil, valued at crores of rupees have been held up at Kandla port and more of these commodities are expected shortly;

(b) whether these items are canalised through the State Trading Corporation and cannot be imported by private traders;

(c) if so, whether any investigation had been ordered as to how the import had been done by the private traders;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) if not how it is proposed to meet the situation; and

(f) which are the parties involved; the c. i. f. value of their imports and the country of import and how the deal had been financed ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Kandla Customs have reported that clearance of industrial Degummed Soyabean Oil (in edible), Palm Kernel Oil and Palm