

[*Translation*][*English*]

**Construction of Meridian Hotel By  
Foreign Company**

5283. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the meridian Hotel in New Delhi was constructed by a foreign company in collaboration with an Indian firm;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the said firm of Delhi has turned out to be a fictitious one;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

**Production Consumption and Import of  
Sugar**

5284. DR. A.K. PATEL:  
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDEL-  
WAL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the production per capita consumption requirement and import of sugar in each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the average sugar prices in February 1983, 1989 in October and February 1990;

(c) the sugarcane arrears of farmers to be paid in each of the last three years and current year; year-wise;

(d) the new action plan to eliminate sugarcane arrears, sugar shortage and to bring down the sugar prices to the minimum; and

(e) the modus operandi of the new action plan, if any?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) The information is as under:—

<i>Sugar Year (October to September)</i>	<i>Production (lakh tonnes)</i>	<i>Imports (Lakh tonnes)</i>	<i>Internal consumption (lakh tonnes)</i>	<i>Per capita availability Kg./Annum</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1986-87	85.02	9.51	87.75	11.4
1987-88	91.10	0.71	93.33	11.7
1988-89 (Provisional)	87.52	—	99.19	12.1
1989-90 (Upto 31.3.90)	81.69	2.42	49.61	—

(b) The retail prices of sugar in the five principal markets of Delhi, Kanpur, Calcutta,

Bombay and Madras have been as under:—

Year	Range of retail prices (Rs./Kg)
February, 88	Rs. 6.25 to Rs. 6.90
February, 89	Rs. 6.20 to Rs. 7.50
October, 89	Rs. 8.70 to Rs. 10.50
February, 90	Rs. 8.00 to Rs. 9.10

(c) The amount of cane price arrears as on 15th March during the current season and

the earlier seasons have been as under:—

*Rs. in crores)*

Season	Position as on	Total price payable	Total price paid	Arrears	Percentage of arrears
1	2	3	4	5	6
1989-90	15.3.90	2339.01	2052.34	286.67	12.3
1988-89	15.3.89	1669.81	1474.10	195.71	11.7
1987-88	15.3.88	1537.34	1349.61	187.73	12.2
1986-87	15.3.87	1369.68	1215.52	154.16	11.3

(d) and (e). Government have already initiated various short term, as also long-term measures, in this regard. These are as under:—

- (i) State Governments/Chief Minister have been advised to ensure prompt payment of cane price arrears to growers.
- (ii) The Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane for the season 1989-90 was increased from Rs. 19.50 to Rs. 22.00 per quintal.
- (iii) Advance announcement of Statutory Minimum Price for 1990-91 at Rs. 23.00 per quintal of sugarcane.
- (iv) Incentive in the form of additional freesale quota to the sugar factories for undertaking early and late crushing for the current 1989-90 season.
- (v) Incentive in the form of additional freesale quota to such sugar factories which are required to transport sugarcane from outside their re-

served areas on the orders of the State Government.

- (vi) Licensing of adequate capacity for setting up of new sugar factories and the expansion of the existing capacities.
- (vii) Financial assistance on soft term basis from the Sugar Development Fund for development of sugar-cane in their reserved areas of the sugar factories and also for undertaking expansion-cum-modernisation of the existing sugar factories.
- (viii) Incentive Scheme for new factories as also the factories which are undertaking expansion upto the minimum economic size. i.e., upto 2500 TCD.
- (ix) Adequate availability of sugar is being maintained through monthly releases of freesale sugar to keep the prices at reasonable levels.

#### **Conversion of Minorities Commission as Human Rights Commission**

5285. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to convert the Minorities Commission into a Human Rights Commission; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.

#### **Export of Cotton**

5286. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimate of cotton crop for 1990-91 seasons;

(b) whether the export of cotton is based on staple length of cotton; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether J-34 variety of cotton was exported by Cotton Corporation of India;

(d) if so, the rate at which the export was made; and

(e) the extent to which export policy has helped the cotton growers in getting remunerative price than what they received last year?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The Cotton Advisory Board has estimated the production of 122.00 lakh bales of cotton during the 1989-90 cotton season. The estimate for 1990-91 season has not yet been made.

(b) Quotas for export of cotton are allocated on the basis of staple length of fibre viz. above 24.5 mm, above 28.0 mm, above 34.5 mm etc.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. CCI has so far registered contracts for the export of 1.49 lakh bales of J-34 cotton during the current cotton season at prices ranging from 142.20 US Cents per Kg. F.O.B. to 160.94 US Cents per Kg. F.O.B.

(e) Release of export quotas have helped check the decline in kapas prices which, even when prevailing at levels below last season's prices have ruled above minimum support level throughout the 1989-90 season. Minimum Support Prices are considered to be remunerative since they provide a reasonable return to farmers after covering cost of inputs.