

Food Processing Industry in Ratnagiri District

525. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the famous 'HAPUS' mango is being produced on a large scale in the Ratnagiri district of Konkan area and due to lack of food processing industries, the farmers are not able to get adequate profit;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a food processing industry at Ratnagiri district of Konkan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) It is a fact that 'HAPUS' or 'Alphanso' mango is produced in large quantities in Ratnagiri district of Konkan area of Maharashtra State. A number of mango processing units have come up in Ratnagiri district including 5 units in large scale. This variety of mango besides being sold in the country for table purposes, is also being exported. There is no report of any distress sale of this variety of mango.

(b) No, Sir. The Government does not have any proposal for setting up a food processing industry in the Ratnagiri district of Konkan region.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Telecast of Marathi Feature Films

526. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Marathi feature films telecast on Doordarshan during the last six months in comparison to other regional feature films; and

(b) the steps being taken to increase the telecast of Marathi films?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) During the last six months, only one Marathi feature film was telecast on the National network of Doordarshan because no other Marathi feature film fulfilling the eligibility criteria had been offered for telecast by the producers/right holders. The comparative figures for other languages are given below:

(i) Assamese	1
(ii) Bengali	4
(iii) Gujarati	1
(iv) Kannada	2
(v) Malayalam	3
(vi) Marathi	1
(vii) Oriya	1
(viii) Punjabi	1
(ix) Tamil	2
(x) Telugu	3

Besides the national telecast, Marathi films are telecast regularly once in every week on the Maharashtra regional network from Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay.

[Translation]**Sale of packed edible oils**

527. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sell edible oils in packs;

(b) if so, the objective thereof;

(c) whether the Government have noted that there is a great difference between the prices of oils sold in loose and that of packed oil; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to reduce this difference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Government is already selling packed edible oil (imported RBD Palmolein) in 2 kg. tin and 1 kg. pouches through PDS outlets.

(b) The main objectives for selling packed edible oils under PDS are:

(i) to ensure good quality and correct quantity for consumer; and

(ii) to prevent leakage of edible oils supplied under PDS to unauthorised channels.

(c) and (d) The prices of packed oils are higher than loose oil due to additional cost of packing materials, higher filling losses, packing charges, etc. As and when major quantity or entire quantity of PDS oils is supplied in small packs, the cost of packing is expected to be reduced per unit.

[English]

Import of consumer electronic goods

528. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether electronics consumer items are proposed to be allowed to be freely imported as a part of new policy package;

(b) if so whether this new policy package is likely to help domestic electronic industry of these products and the consumer as well; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There is no proposal to allow import of Consumer Electronic items freely.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Sending of an Indian to Moon

529. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to send an Indian to moon with the help of American or Russian Government; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal, at present, to send an Indian to the Moon.

[Translation]

Applications from Private Sugar Mills for increasing production capacity

530. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from private sugar mills for increasing their production capacity, State-wise;

(b) the names of the Sugar Mills, which have sent in such applications; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) As on 30-6-1991, 20 applications are pending consideration from Private Sugar Mills for increasing their production capacity. State-wise names of these mills are given at the attached statement.

(c) The Licensing Policy guidelines for Sugar Industry for the VIIIth Five Year Plan are presently being reviewed by the Government. These applications would be considered as per the policy formulated after the aforesaid review.