

[*Translation*]

Branch office of APEDA

1656 SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Bihar Government has requested the Union Government to open a branch office of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in the State,

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) to (c) No, Sir However a proposal for opening a Regional Office of Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) in Calcutta is under consideration This Regional office will look after the entire eastern region including Bihar

[*English*]

New variety of mulberry

1657 SHRI V KRISHNA RAO Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirapalli has developed a high-yielding mulberry variety suitable for drought-prone areas, and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Central Silk Board to propagate this

drought tolerant mulberry in States like Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) and (b) No, Sir However, the Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirapalli have evaluated the mulberry species evolved by the Central Silk Board's research institutes and have found that S-13 & S-34, which are drought tolerant varieties, are performing well in Tamil Nadu

Under the National Sericulture Project the CSB has taken up large scale multiplication of S-13 & S-34 varieties of mulberry under the scheme Nucleus Farms in the CSB and the State Government Mulberry Farms of Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh

[*Translation*]

Blackmarketing of Janata Cloth

1658 SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KOUR (DEEPA)
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Janata Cloth which was manufactured for the poor has been sold in the black market leading to a fraud of crores of rupees,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?