

economic empowerment, education and awareness generation. Further the Ministry of Home Affairs have alerted the immigration officials at the exit points to be more careful while scrutinising the travel documents of minor girls to notice any false entry on their passports regarding their age etc.

Measures to Improve Acceptability of Sugar in World Market

2329. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated various measures to improve the acceptability of Indian sugar in the World Market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the sugar industry is bearing loss in exporting sugar;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGO): (a) and (b). Improvement in the quality of sugar produced so as to make it acceptable in the world market is primarily the responsibility of the sugar factories and depends upon the technical and managerial efficiency of the sugar factories.

(c) to (e). At present, export of sugar is being carried out by the Indian Sugar and General Industry Export Import Corporation, a body corporate of the industry, under the provisions of Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1953. The profit/loss in the export of sugar would be known only after the shipment of the entire quantity allocated for export is completed and the accounts finalised.

[Translation]

Import of Wheat

2330. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI:
 PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
 SHRI PROBIN DEKA:
 SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:
 SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
 SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
 SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN:
 SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:
 SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
 SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
 SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:
 SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL:
 SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
 PROF. SHRIMATI RITA VERMA.
 SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
 DR. ASIM BALA:
 SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
 SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
 SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR:
 SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:
 PROF. RAM KAPSE:
 SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
 SHRI SUDARSHAN RAY CHAUDHURI:
 SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:
 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
 SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
 SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI:
 SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
 WARI:
 SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR,
 PATEL:
 SHRIR. SURENDERREDDY:
 SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH
 HOODA:
 KUMARAI UMA BHARATI:
 SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:
 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
 SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
 SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
 SHRI NARAIN SINGH
 CHAUDHARY:
 SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
 SHRI BRAHMANAND MAN-
 DAL:
 SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
 MALIK:
 SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
 YADAV:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is exporting wheat and also propose to import the same;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor:

(c) the quantity of wheat proposed to be imported during the current year and during each of the next two years, countrywise;

(d) whether the rates of the wheat proposed to be imported are much higher than that of the wheat proposed to be exported;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rates in dollar terms; separately; and

(f) the amount of foreign exchange involved in the important deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The decision to export

wheat was taken at a time when the stocks of wheat in the Central Pool were higher than the stocks required to be maintained under the buffer stocking policy, in order to earn the much needed foreign exchange. Subsequently, keeping in view the lower procurement and increased demand for PDS, it was decided to restrict these exports. The Government have recently decided to import one million tonnes of wheat during 1992 with a view to increase its availability and to contain market prices. No contracts for import have, however, been signed so far. There is not proposal at present to import wheat during next two years.

(d) to (f). Price of the imported wheat and the foreign exchange involved will be known only after finalisation of contracts.

[English]

Production of Wheat

2331. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the production of wheat in the country in 1991;

(b) the stocks of wheat in central godowns as on April 1, 1991;

(c) the procurement of wheat out of 1991 Crop; and

(d) the quantity of wheat distributed through Fair-Price shops during 1989, 1990 and 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The production of wheat in the country during 1990-91 production year (July-June) has been estimated at 545.22 lakh tonnes.