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18.	IND/82/043 Manufacture of Dapsone, Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceticals, Calcutta	—do—	20,000	August, 1982	
19.	IND/76/0022 Under-ground Copper Mining, Hindustan Copper Ltd., Calcutta	—do—	315,303	December, 1978	
20.	IND/82/025 Strengthening of the Collage of Leather Technology, Ministry of Industry through Department of Technical Education, Government of West Bengal, Calcutta	—do—	551,975	December, 1983	

#### Production of Cardamom

2782. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of cardamom during the last year;

(b) whether there is any loss in production;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to give subsidy to the cultivators as an incentive for more production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The production of cardamom in the last season 1983-84 was 1600 tonnes which was much below the average annual production. This drastic fall in production was due to unprecedented drought in the cardamom producing States during two consecutive seasons.

(d) Government has approved the following Schemes of the Cardamom Board to assist the drought affected growers :

#### (1) Replanting Loan-cum-Subsidy Scheme :

Under this scheme an area of 15,000 hectares (7500 hectares for small growers and 7500 hectares for large growers) will be covered in 3 years. Small growers owning upto 8 hectares are being paid cash subsidy

of Rs. 2500 per hectare in three annual instalments of Rs. 1000, Rs. 800 and Rs. 700. Loan component is Rs. 7750 per hectare to be arranged from financial Institution on which 3% interest subsidy is being granted. The large growers are entitled to a cash subsidy of Rs. 1500 per hectare in three annual instalments of Rs. 1000, Rs. 300 and Rs. 200. Loan component is Rs. 8750 per hectare.

#### (2) Production of Seedlings in Polythene bags in certified Nurseries :

50% cost of seed material and polythene bags are subsidised under this scheme.

#### (3) Opening of more certified Nurseries :

This scheme is being implemented from 1983-84 onwards. Total financial outlay involved is Rs. 25.5 lakhs for 3 years. 25% of the cost of production of seedlings, not exceeding 50 paise per seedling is subsidised.

As a result of these schemes, the production during 1984-85 is estimated at 3,500 M. Tonnes.

#### Failure of Hindustan Copper Limited to Meet Copper Requirement

2783. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken exception to the failure of the State-owned