

(f) Government takes, from time to time, preventive and deterrant action to stop exports of sub-standard goods :

#### Scheme to Export Potatoes

3743. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for export of potatoes ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to protect the interest of potato growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) :

(a) and (b) Export of potatoes is allowed freely.

(c) The following measures have been taken to protect the interests of potato growers :

(i) Advance action has been taken to introduce market intervention operations in the States of U.P., Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal which together account for nearly 77% of total production in the country.

(ii) The market intervention price is Rs. 50/- per quintal and losses are shared equally between the Central and the State Governments, The implementing agencies are NA-FEED (National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.) and the State co-operatives which are farmers' own organisations.

(iii) As a standing arrangement, all State Governments have been advised to avail of the scheme of market intervention for potatoes whenever warranted.

#### Exploration of Coffee Cultivation in Orissa

3744. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTAIAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Orissa have approached the Union Government to find out the possibility of coffee cultivation in Orissa ;

(b) if so, the scheme of Union Government in this regard ; and

(c) the District in Orissa in which plantation of coffee has started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey has been conducted by the Coffee Board to find out the areas suitable for coffee cultivation in the non-traditional areas (other than the North-Eastern Region) which cover Orissa State.

(c) The Orissa State Soil Conservation Department which is entrusted with the work of coffee cultivation, has planted coffee in an area of 900 hectares in the hilly districts of Koraput, Kalahandi, Phulbani and Ganjam.

#### Supply of Sub-Standard Jute Products to Foreign Countries

3745. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTAIAK : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some complaints have been received from foreign countries regarding supply of sub-standard jute products ;

(b) whether the jute exports have also come down ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to encourage jute export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) No general complaint about the quality of India's jute products has been received from foreign countries.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, the trend has been reversed in current year 1984-85, when the exports have been higher, both in volume and value, over the last year.

(c) In order to boost exports of jute goods, the Government have taken several steps which include :—

(i) Providing higher CCS to jute carpet backing cloth and yarn on the basis of matching performance by the industry ;