

(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 ;

- (ii) Formation of STC Jute Industry consortium on 50 : 50 loss-sharing basis of exports of carpet backing cloth to North America.
- (iii) Arranging participation in international trade fairs and sponsoring market-oriented trade delegations from time to time ;
- (iv) Encouraging development of exportable products through R&D efforts ; and
- (v) Constituting a new JMDC and a Jute Fund out of proceeds of jute cess to give boost to R&D efforts and export promotion.

#### Proposal to set up Central Wool Board

3746. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal, to set up a Central Wool Board on the lines of other such commodity boards;

(b) if so, the broad outlines, functions and proposed composition thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to locate the headquarters of the Board at Calcutta which had been the centre for import of Australian wools; and

(d) if not, the location of the headquarters and the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (d) A Study Group was appointed to study the problems of Wool and Woollen Industry. The Study Group has submitted its Report. It has, *inter-alia* recommended constitution of a Wool Board. An Empowered Committee has been constituted by the Government to take decisions for effective and expeditious implementation of the recommendations made in the said Report including the recommendation on Wool Board.

#### Guidelines Issued for Determining Ostentatious Expenditure

3747. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 757 on 22 March,

1985 regarding on ostentatious expenditure cases detected by Income Tax Authorities and state :

(a) the guidelines which have been issued to the Income-tax Authorities for determining the 'ostentatious' expenditure;

(b) the particulars of the cases involving lakhs of Rupees of such an expenditure which were enquired into and in which of these cases the matter was taken to some logical conclusion; and

(c) the nature of action taken against these tax evaders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) to (c) The question as to whether the expenditure is ostentatious or not depends on the status of the assessee. The completion of assessment is made according to the statutory time limits.

#### Rules Regarding Appointment and Selection of Members and Chairmen of Banking Boards

3748. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any rules and regulations have been laid down after the passage of the Banking Recruitment Boards Bill regarding appointment and selection of Members and Chairmen of the various Banking Boards;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to lay on the Table a copy thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) to (c) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the Banking Service Commission Act.

The Act has prescribed the criteria for selection of Chairman and Members of the Commission and empowered the Central Government to make these appointments. As such the question of framing any rules or regulations, in this regard does not arise.