

In addition, the IBRD/IDA will provide loan/assistance to the tune of US \$ 150 million and 200 million respectively for drought relief.

(b) As a result of higher releases of essential commodities the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) has remained relatively stable during the last few months and the prices of many seasonal items including edible oils and milk and milk products have registered a marginal fall.

#### Funds Mobilisation for NRI

9126. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received proposal from State of Kerala to set up a public limited company for mobilising funds from Non-resident Indians which would be invested in the primary and secondary capital market in the State; and

(b) if so, reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal was examined in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and was not found acceptable.

#### Export of Spices

9127. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of spices in Kerala, their export and the foreign exchange earned during the last three years; year-wise; and

(b) the steps envisaged to promote export of spices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Figures of production of some major spices in Kerala during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 are indicated in the Statement-I below. Figures for exports state-wise are not available. However, figures of total exports of spices from India during 1984-85 onwards are given in Statement-II below.

(b) The Spices Board which is responsible for promotion of export of spices, has Market Promotion Programmes for West Asia, North African Region, USA, Canada and West Europe. The programmes include inter-alia publicity, Sales-cum-Study delegation, participation in major international trade fairs, organising Buyer-Seller Meets. The Board also plans to set-up quality control laboratories, and provide trade information services to exporters.

These are, of course, in addition to the Government's CCS and other incentive schemes for export promotion.

#### STATEMENT-I

##### *Production of major spices*

| Item     | 1984-85 |           | 1985-86 |           | 1986-87 |           |
|----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
|          | Kerala  | All India | Kerala  | All India | Kerala  | All India |
| 1        | 2       | 3         | 4       | 5         | 6       | 7         |
| Cardamom | 2.85    | 9.30      | 3.34    | 10.02     | 3.09    | 9.73      |