

(c) Stringent action is taken against persons found involved in smuggling activities, both departmentally as well as through prosecution in courts. Apart from confiscation of the gold involved, and imposition of penalties, preventive detention under the COFEPOSA Act is also resorted to in appropriate cases.

**Firms/Organisations running illegal Banking Business in Thane District (Maharashtra)**

1814. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints had been received by the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay regarding certain firms/organisations running illegal banking business in Thane district of Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, the particulars of the firms/organisations in whose cases the complaints were found to be true after necessary investigation by the Reserve Bank ;

(c) whether necessary action has been taken against such firms/organisations under the rules of the Reserve Bank of India Act ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and to the extent available and permissible under the statutes will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Imports of Sugar**

1815. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present policies of Government will lead to further imports of sugar costing over Rs. 600 crores in foreign exchange as reported in the 'News Times' of 28 January, 1986 ; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps if any proposed to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) (a) and (b) The decline in sugar production in the last two sugar

seasons was mainly due inter alia, to natural factors such as drought conditions, low recovery in some of the States. To encourage the production of sugarcane and sugar in the country the payment of remunerative cane prices to the growers is being ensured. The imports of sugar have been necessitated to augment the domestic availability of sugar for ensuring adequate supplies at reasonable prices to the consumers. However, the reported further import of sugar costing over Rs. 600 crores in foreign exchange in the coming year is not correct.

**Jute Mill at Dalgaon in Assam**

1816. SHRI SAIFUDDIN AHMED : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the reasons as to why installation of the proposed jute mill at Dalgaon in Assam has been withheld for the last eleven years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : No application for grant of an industrial licence for setting up of a new jute mill at Dalgaon in Assam is pending.

**Criteria for according Five Star or luxury rating to Public Sector Hotels**

1817. SHRI SHIVENDRA BHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria being followed for according five-star or luxury rating to hotels in India, details thereof ;

(b) whether the criteria are being applied uniformly for rating public sector hotels under India Tourism Development Corporation and Hotel Corporation of India ;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ; and

(d) the steps Government contemplate to take to rectify the anomaly and improve the standards in public sector hotels ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) (a) Hotels in India are classified in different star categories including the 5-star category, in accordance with the criteria laid down by

the Department of Tourism. Details are given in the Annexure.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2268/86]

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Agreement with F.A.O. for production of Edible Oil**

**1818. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :**  
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been taken steps aiming at increasing the production of edible oil ;

(b) whether Government have also signed pact with Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nations for this purpose ;

(c) the details of the agreement made ; and

(d) the steps taken to achieve the above objective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An agreement was signed between Government of India and Food and Agriculture Organisation on 12.2.1986. The project will help to assess the technological and economic feasibility under Indian conditions of extraction of rice bran oil by either pressing or expelling in units installed either at or near the rice mills.

(d) Government has taken/is taking a number of measures to increase the production of oilseeds and oils in addition to the agreement with Food and Agriculture Organisation as follows :

1. Implementation of the National Oilseeds Development project, covering special project on groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, soyabean and sunflower besides intensive development work on other oilseeds. The programme, inter alia, aims at the development of non-traditional oilseeds, increase in areas under irrigated crops, particularly groundnut in rabi/summer season, basic inputs and

free distribution of seed-cum-fertiliser mini kits on a large scale.

2. National Dairy Development Board's Oilseeds project : State level cooperative oilseeds growers : federation have been formed in seven States under the project for restructuring of Edible Oils and Oilseeds Production and Marketing through National Dairy Development Board.
3. Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices.
4. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the productivity of oilseeds.
5. Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crop like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc,
6. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.
7. Fiscal incentives for increased use of non-conventional oils in vanaspati, exemption from excise duty in respect of refined rice bran, cottonseed and soyabean oils meant for direct human consumption and also for solvent used for extraction of oil and for machinery are some of the other measures for increasing edible oils production.

[Translation]

**Delay in Assessment of Raid Cases**

**1819. DR. C. S. VERMA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of raids conducted throughout the country during the last three years on income tax evaders and the names of places where these raids were conducted ;

(b) whether income-tax has been realised in all such cases following the raids if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the reasons for abnormal delay in the assessment of raid cases which results