

(e) if so, the reaction thereto and steps taken to overcome the difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) It is a fact that the cashew processing industry in India is in difficulty due to shortage of raw cashewnuts for processing. This situation arose due to fall in imports of raw cashewnuts from 1,35,718 metric tonnes in 1975-76 to 71,833 metric tonnes during 1976-77. The fall in imports was caused by poor crops in the East African countries of Tanzania, Mozambique and Kenya, who are India's main suppliers, which adversely affected their exportable surplus.

(b) In the past fifteen years annual imports of raw cashewnuts have between 1.50 lakh tonnes to 2.00 lakh tonnes. The total cashewnuts processed have been around 3 lakh tonnes per year.

(c) The annual import of raw cashewnuts by the Cashew Corporation of India during the last 3 years have been as follows:—

Year	Qty. (Metric tonnes)
1974-75	1,41,081
1975-76	1,35,718
1976-77	71,833

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The contracts between the Indian exporters and the foreign importers were bilateral in nature and have to be so executed. However, Government are taken that some settlement should be reached soon and have advised the exporters accordingly.

Prospects of Employment as a result of proposed economy in Government Departments

1678. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have taken a decision to introduce economy in the all Government departments and public undertakings;

(b) if so, what are main points on which Government have stressed a greater economy;

(c) to what extent the savings will be achieved; and

(d) whether this economy will affect the prospects of more employment in the country and will reduce the efficiency in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the Ministries and Departments have been requested to explore the possibility of reducing the existing staff strength through a scrutiny of their current functions, systems, and procedures and a detailed examination of all the Commissions and Committees that have been set up and are in existence to see whether they are serving a significantly useful purpose to justify their further continuance. The existing laws are also to be reviewed with a view to seeing if they have become superfluous and the staff originally recruited for their administration could be surrendered. The other economy measures cover restrictions on creation of new posts and filling up of vacancies, strict economy in office expenditure, reduction in travelling allowance and overtime payments, restrictions on expenditure on staff cars, telephones, etc.

(c) and (d). The adoption of the economy measures would help in containing the growth of administrative expenditure. It has however not been found possible to quantify the savings to be achieved. It is anticipated that some posts may become surplus and existing vacancies may not be filled up. This will, however, not impair the efficiency or affect general employment prospects in the country.

Terminal Complex at Civil Aerodrome, Ahmedabad

1679. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of building a new, large, modern and well equipped Terminal Complex at the civil aerodrome, Ahmedabad is progressing satisfactorily and speedily as per schedule; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). The work is progressing satisfactorily as per schedule. The new terminal building will provide an arrival hall capable of accommodating 150 passengers and 75 visitors, a departure concourse to accommodate 200 passengers and 100 visitors along with a separate departure holding area for security cleared passengers to accommodate approximately 200 passengers. In addition, facilities for the passengers and visitors, such as, Travellers Requisite Stalls, public telephone booths, postal and insurance facilities, left luggage booth and baggage delivery areas would also be available. There would also be a restaurant on the mezzanine floor with a seating capacity for 150 persons. An open public gallery for visitors along with a visitors' lounge is being provided in the new building.

The estimated cost of the new Terminal Complex along with associated apron and taxi tracks is about Rs. 50 lakhs.

Import of Raw Cashew

1680. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Government has urged the Central Government to make arrangements for importing more quantum of raw cashew from African countries;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the private industrialists and traders have urged Government to issue them import licences to import raw cashew; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). No proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala. However, the Cashew Corporation of India Ltd., the agency through which import of raw cashew-nuts is canalised, are making their best efforts to import larger quantities of raw cashew-nuts, from African countries, to meet the requirement of the Cashew Processing Industry.

(c) and (d). A Memorandum on the subject has been received. Pending consideration of the Memorandum the present policy of the Government is to continue canalisation of imports of raw cashew-nuts through the Cashew Corporation of India Ltd.