

packages floating in stream of Mazgaon Pier. One more such package was also found floating in the basin of Scindia Steam Ship Company at Mazgaon on 8th April, 1978. These packages were salvaged and on examination found to contain 14,505 snake skins valued at Rs. 2,18,625 and were seized. While surveying the area where the packages were found floating one mechanised vessel, M.S.V. 'PUTTUMAI RANI' was seen in the sea partly sunk. However, no contraband was found on the said vessel. On enquiry, one Sulaiman Jaffar, skipper of the vessel, who was the only occupant of the said vessel, denied any knowledge about the seized contraband. Twelve other members of the crew of the vessel, who were on the shore, also denied any knowledge about the seized contraband. Further investigations are in progress.

Export of Sugar affecting Domestic Consumption

10283. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that we have been exporting sugar affecting the domestic consumption;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) what is the amount of foreign exchange earning by exporting sugar in the last five consecutive years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No, Sir. The quantity of sugar to be exported during any calendar year is determined by the Government taking into consideration total production of sugar, total domestic requirements, international sugar prices, sugar prices within the country, etc.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Amount of foreign exchange earned on account of export of sugar in the last 5 years was as follows:—

Year (April-March)	Foreign exchange earnings (Rs. crores)
1973-74 .	42.21
1974-75 .	314.34
1975-76 .	468.48
1976-77 .	152.01
1977-78* .	16.33

*Provisional.

Provision of subsidies for Export Promotion of Essential Commodities

10284. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are inclined to provide subsidies for export promotion of some essential commodities; and

(b) if so, its effect on the domestic market and the Indian Consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Cash compensatory support is being provided for export of a number of such commodities.

(b) There can be no adverse effect on their domestic supplies, as selective cash compensatory support is given for only such commodities as are allowed for export under the Exports (Control) Order, after assessing their total availability, from time to time.