

National Cooperative Consumers Federation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BAIG): (a) and (b). National Cooperative Consumers' Federation has no proposal to get special 'co-op' brand cotton textile equipment manufactured. However, the Bombay and Madras branches of the National Cooperative Consumers Federation are already getting certain selected varieties of textiles like long cloth, poplin manufactured under "co-op" brand from some of the textile mills. At present, the production is less than 1,000 bales per month, but ultimately NCCF is trying to attain a total production target of 1,000 bales per month. These textiles will be cheaper as compared to other brands of textiles by about 5 to 10 per cent.

(c) NCCF has already made arrangements with NTC and certain private mills for manufacture of co-op brands of textiles like dhoties, poplins, etc. as per designs and specifications suggested by it. As soon as arrangements with some more mills are also finalised, additional supplies of cloth will be made available for sale by cooperatives.

Government investment in Equity shares in private companies

11418. SHRI S. R. REDDY: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to invest in equity shares in private companies; and

(b) if so, what are the advantages for such investments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

1145 LS—7

Impact of reduction in entertainment expenses on production in public sector enterprises

11419. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state whether reduction of entertainment expenses has affected the efficiency of the public sector enterprises and reduction in production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): The Government has advised the Public Enterprises that austerity and economy should be observed in the matter of entertainment expenses. Monetary limits while arranging parties at 5-star hotels or at the residences of the Chief Executives have also been prescribed. It is Government's view that reduction in entertainment expenses as a result of the implementation of these instructions would not in any way affect efficiency and production in Public Enterprises.

Export of vegetables and fruits

11420. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:

SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of exports of fresh vegetables and fresh fruits during the year 1976-77, 1977-78 and 1978-79;

(b) what plans have been drawn by Government to boost the export of fresh vegetables and fresh fruits from India; and

(c) the amount of total demand for export for fresh fruits and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BAIG): (a) A statement showing exports of fresh

vegetables and fresh fruits is attached.

(b) Cash Compensatory Support is given for export of fresh fruits and vegetables excepting potatoes and onions. Government have also fixed promotional air freight rates for fresh fruits and vegetables ex-Bombay/Delhi to Abu Dhabi, Bahrein, Dubai, Kuwait, Muscat and Doha. Special promotional air freight rates have also been fixed for fresh mangoes from Bombay/Madras to Australia. Import replenishment

licence and duty draw back are also available on certain items. Export of fresh vegetables other than potatoes and onions is allowed through State Govt. agencies provided they undertake additional production of vegetables exclusively for exports and the quantity exported does not exceed 50 per cent of the additional production.

(c) According to the report of Task Force on Agricultural exports, the demand for export of fresh fruits and vegetables (including potatoes and onions) is estimated to be 5.7 lakh tonnes.

Statement

Export of fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Qty.: in M.T.

Values in Rs. Lakhs

Item	1976-77		1977-79		1978-79 (Provisional)	
	Qty	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1. Fresh fruits	10390.8	354.43	12539.1	551.16	7990.8	477.59
2. Potatoes	44670.9	585.19	104.8	1.38	18008.1	177.60
3. Onions	163533.1	1885.12	56821.1	907.35	100486.0	1422.00
4 Other Fresh Vegetables	7167.9	181.35	5981.8	212.56	2423.7	136.75