

Setting up Cashewnuts Factories in Kanya Kumari

7392. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals under the consideration of Government to open a unit of the Cashew Corporation of India in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose considering the opening of that unit in Kanya Kumari District where there are large number of cashew factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b). There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to open a unit of Cashew Corporation of India in Tamil Nadu.

Setting up of a Titanium Factory in Kanyakumari District

7393. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to establish a titanium factory in Kanyakumari District; and

(b) if so, the approximate time when such a factory would be established?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). A proposal submitted by a private party for grant of industrial licence for establishing a titanium sponge industry in Tirunelveli/Kanyakumari has been rejected on the ground of inadequate demand for the product.

Distribution of Imported Cashew Nuts to Factories

7394. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the places in the country where there are units of the Cashew Corporation of India; and

(b) the method adopted by Government for the equitable distribution of imported cashew nuts to the different parts of the country where there are cashew factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Cashew Corporation of India has its registered Office in New Delhi and Head Office in Cochin. It does not have any branch office anywhere else in the country.

(b) The imported raw cashew is allotted to the eligible factories of eligible actual users as set out in the ITC Policy.

Payment of Custom Duty by Drug Industry on Import of Drugs

7395. SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of customs duty paid by drug industry on import of drugs/medicines during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the names of the drugs and medicines thus imported and the amount of excise/custom duty collected each year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). Statistics of customs revenue collections and foreign trade of India are maintained on the basis of 'commodity groups' and not on the basis of class of importers; no details are readily avail-