

(c) Corporation will make purchases to ensure that grower gets at least the statutory minimum prices for his produce.

Imported Edible Oils became unfit for Human Consumption

4710. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases of imported edible oil having become unfit for human consumption due to defective shortage during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the quantity and the value of such edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA):

(a) and (b). During the last three years, edible oils have been imported both on private account, as well as on Government account by State Trading Corporation. No information is available about any edible oil so imported by private parties having become unfit for human consumption. Insofar as edible oils imported by State Trading Corporation are concerned, it has reported no case during that period of imported edible oils having become unfit for human consumption as a result of defective storage.

Change in Development of Handloom Industry in Adivasi Areas

4712. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring some change in regard to development of handloom industry in Adivasi Areas of the country;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) whether Government are allowing the weavers to use terene staples in handloom industry mixing

with Khadi to modernise the handloom industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Government of India have launched a number of schemes for the all round development of the handloom industry in all areas of the country. The Governments of States having concentration of handlooms in Adivasi areas have been requested to see that the benefits of such development schemes reach the Adivasi weavers.

(b) (i) Share capital assistance to primary handloom cooperative societies;

(ii) Share capital assistance for apex body of handloom weavers;

(iii) Assistance for creation of pre-loom and post-loom processing facilities;

(iv) Loan and grant assistance to handloom weavers for improvement and modernisation of looms.

(v) Intensive and Export Handloom Development Projects for the benefit of the weavers outside the cooperative fold.

(c) Some of the States have already taken up the production of handloom fabrics using polyester fibre in the handloom sector. The Weavers' Service Centres and the Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology have taken up a programme of training of weavers in weaving polyester blends and in designing a special loom for such purposes.

Sponge Iron Project in Bangladesh

4713. SHRI A. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have revived the proposal for

sponge iron project in Bangladesh as a joint venture;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof; and

(c) what shall be its effect on Indian trade-economy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). In accordance with an Agreement signed between the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh, a feasibility report for setting up a Sponge Iron Plant in Bangladesh was prepared and submitted by Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited (MECON), in December, 1974. There was no response from Bangladesh Government till February, 1979. Thereafter, some interest has been shown by Bangladesh authorities. In view of the delay, the feasibility report needs updating and revision. Different aspects of this proposal are presently under consideration of the Government.

Project-Exports sanctioned by I.D.B.I.

4714. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many project-Exports were sanctioned by the Industrial Development Bank of India in the year 1979 and 1980 (January-June);

(b) which are the countries of Project-Exports and the amount sanctioned for each scheme and the sponsoring firm;

(c) whether the FICCI has criticised the long delays, procedural handicaps, lack of long term and soft term credit facilities and negotiation facility in the IDBI project-exports; and

(d) how do Government propose to bring about co-operation of Indian Embassies, Department of Company

Affairs and Department of Industries to cut short delays and procedural powers to make the IDBI project-exports more streamlined?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGAN BHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). Industrial Development Bank of India does not sanction project exports but gives financial and other assistance for such exports. The details of the assistance extended by Industrial Development Bank of India to project exports during the year 1979 and during the first-half of 1980 (from 1st January 1980 to 30th June, 1980) is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). Suggestion for liberalising financial assistance and for streamlining the procedures for expeditious clearance of project export proposals are received by the Government from time to time from different organisations of trade and industry. The procedures for grant of financial and other assistance to project exports have already been streamlined and clearance of such proposals has been expedited through the Working Group mechanism which has Industrial Development Bank of India as its focal point and includes the representatives of Reserve Bank of India, Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation Ltd. and the concerned commercial banks. The Working Group considers and grants package financial clearance for each project. The broad guidelines governing export of engineering goods and project exports have recently been further liberalised. These include some major relaxations with regard to the period of deferred credit, concept of foreign exchange out-go, interest on deferred receivables, provision for bridging finance in foreign exchange etc. IDBI keeps a close liaison with the Government and the Indian Missions abroad. Government has also set up an Overseas Project Development Committee which oversees and monitors projects under execution by Indian parties.