

**Directive to State Governments to check Price Rise**

3624. SHRI RASABEHARI BEHERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any directive to the State Governments to check the price rise;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) how many States have taken action in this regard; and

(d) to what extent these measures have checked the rise in prices?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (d). Communications have been issued from time to time in the light of emerging trends to State Governments to check price rise. These relate to vigorous enforcement of existing enactments against hoarders, black-marketeers and other antisocial elements and orders under Essential Commodities Act, streamlining of the public distribution system and proper monitoring of the availabilities, prices and distribution of essential commodities.

As a result of the anti-inflationary measures taken by the Government, the monthly rate of inflation has fallen to 0.9 per cent in the quarter August—October 1980 from 3.2 per cent in the quarter May—July 1980. The Index has shown a decline during the four weeks ended November 22, 1980.

**Sale of Jewels of Ex-Maharaja of Alwar**

3625. SHRI K. A. SWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale sales of historically important jewels by the family of the ex-Maharaja of Alwar; and

(b) if so, the full details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) as a result of the information received that Swai Tej Singh, Ex-Maharaja of Alwar, was selling his historically important jewels, searches were conducted by the Income-tax Department at the residential premises of Swai Tej Singh and members of his family viz. M. K. Yashwant Singh, M. K. Pratap Kumari, Smt. Bhanu Kumari, at Delhi and Alwar. However, no documents could be found which would reveal the sale of such jewels.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

**Cultural Programmes at Mahabalipuram**

3626. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for setting up "Sound and Music" arrangements and cultural programmes at Mahabalipuram to attract more tourists; and

(b) if not, do Government propose considering setting up such arrangements and cultural programme at Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Not for the present.

**Allotment of Palmolein Oil to Tamil Nadu**

3627. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the allotment of palmolein oil to Tamil Nadu is inadequate to meet their demands; and