

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) Frozen frog legs and frozen sea foods exported from India are inspected by Export Inspection Agency and exported under their Certificates at Zero level contamination of salmonella.

(b) The MPEDA can effectively exercise powers through Export Inspection Agency to insist upon exporters of frog legs and sea foods to take precautions to prevent incidence of salmonella in exportable consignments. Consignments not conforming to the prescribed standards are not permitted to be exported.

#### **Advice to Sea Food and Frog Leg Exporters to Eradicate Salmonella from Fresh Consignments**

3650. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority knows of any fully effective process/treatment to be employed to free consignments of frozen sea foods and frog legs from infestation of salmonella or of the strains of salmonella which infest the above named foods; and

(b) whether MPEDA have any scheme to render suitable advice to sea food and frog leg exporters to totally eradicate salmonella from fresh consignments shipped from India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. MPEDA knows fully effective process/treatment to be employed to free consignments of frozen sea foods and frog legs from infestation of salmonella. Good manufacturing practices provided by FAO/WHO CODEX International Committee on fish and fishery products are available with MPEDA and Export Inspection Agency.

(b) MPEDA has launched an extension programme to educate processors and workers on hygiene and initiated Training Programmes on in-plant quality control and plant sanitation. MPEDA also has schemes to give financial assistance for setting up mini laboratories in processing units, supply of insulated fish boxes at subsidised rates for use in boats and circulation of publicity material in regard to testing procedure of salmonella and code of practice for sea foods to eradicate salmonella contamination. In consultation with Export Inspection Agency and Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, a number of training programmes on frog leg cutting and processing are also being conducted.

#### **Development of Export of Marine Foods**

3651. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes which M.P.E.D.A. have in hand for the development of exports of marine foods;

(b) whether Government of India have any proposal or scheme or programme to export prawns shrimps frog legs etc. to countries like U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Poland, G.D.R. Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria; and

(c) whether M.P.E.D.A. has explored the possibilities of the above exports and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) The MPEDA have a number of schemes in hand for the development of exports of marine products. These schemes include market surveys, reimbursement of air freight charges for sending samples to new markets, collection and dissemination of market information, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, sponsoring of sales teams and delegations, organising Indian Sea Food Fairs, prawn farming, improve-