

**Increase in Losses by Public Sector
Units**

4643. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a survey conducted by the Ministry, the losses of public sector units have recorded sharp increase despite a phenomenal increase in sale;

(b) if so, the units which have been surveyed by the Ministry and the losses incurred by each since 1977, year-wise; and

(c) what is the investment made in each of these units and the sale achieved by each since 1977, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (c). As part of its functions, the Bureau of Public Enterprises reports annually the operating results, together with investments made therein of all the Central public enterprises through the Public Enterprises Survey—Annual Report on the Industrial and Commercial enterprises of the Government of India which are laid on the Table of the House. The reports relating to 1977-78 and 1978-79 were laid on the Table of the House in February, 1979 and March, 1980 respectively. Operating results of these enterprises for 1979-80 are under compilation and would be incorporated in the Bureau's Public Enterprises Survey for 1979-80 which would be laid on the Table of the House in the Budget Session in 1981. The Total sales of these enterprises in 1979-80 are provisionally assessed at Rs. 23,124 crores as against Rs. 18,936 crores in 1978-79. The pre-tax profit of all these units is also provisionally assessed at a slightly higher level as compared for 1978-79.

Crash in Prices of Turmeric

4644. SHRI K. KUNHAMBUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a crash in the prices of turmeric;

(b) if so, whether the main causes have been identified;

(c) whether Government have got any proposal to reduce the heavy export duty; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes Sir, there has been a decline in the price of turmeric in 1980.

(b) The main reason for the decline was a bumper crop, owing to cultivators having taken up turmeric cultivation in a very large way due to the high prices obtained in 1979, and almost static demand.

(c) and (d): The export duty has been removed with effect from 14th November, 1980.

**Iron ore and Manganese ore lying at
Banspani Plots**

4645. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several lakh tons of iron ore and Manganese Ore lying at the Banspani Plots;

(b) if so, the reasons of not transporting the ore; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far to transport the ores to the nearest ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) MMTTC is holding a stock of 6.58 lakh tonnes, as on 1st November, 1980, of export grade iron ore at Banspani railway siding. There is no accumulation of manganese ore at Banspani plots.

(b) The accumulation of stocks of iron ore at Banspani has been the result of inadequate rail movement during the last two years and limited shipment facilities at Paradeep port.

(c) Railways have reportedly taken steps to improve the movement of iron ore from Barajamda Sector (including Banspani station) to Paradeep Port, which is the only outlet for export of iron ore of this region. Port authorities have also taken steps to carry out urgent repairs to the loading equipment in order to speed up the shipments.

Import of essential commodities

4646. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to import more essential commodities in the near future except those imported during the last six months; and

(b) if so, the details of the commodities which are intended to be imported during the next six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). Decisions to import essential commodities are taken depending upon the requirements of the economy, especially for items of mass consumption, domestic availability and likely foreign exchange expenditure involved.

उत्पादन शुल्क से छूट प्राप्त सूती तथा सूती विस्कोस होजरी की वस्तुएं

4647. श्री रामलाल राही: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्तमान सरकार द्वारा सूती तथा सूती विस्कोस की होजरी की कौन-कौन सी वस्तुओं पर उत्पादन शुल्क से छूट दी गई है और शुल्क वापस लिए जाने से पूर्व तथा पश्चात् उनके बाजार मूल्यों में तुलनात्मक अन्तर क्या था ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उत्पादन शुल्क से इस छूट का लाभ उपभोक्ताओं के स्थान पर व्यापारियों को हुआ है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसका लाभ उपभोक्ताओं को दिलवाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया): (क) सरकार ने, पूर्णतया रूई से अथवा विस्कोस तन्तु अथवा सूत के साथ रूई के मिश्रण से विनिर्मित फैब्रिकों से बनी होजरी की सभी वस्तुओं पर छूट दी है। शुल्क हटाने से पूर्व तथा 15 नवम्बर, 1980 की स्थिति के अनुसार इन वस्तुओं में से कुछ वस्तुओं के तुलनात्मक मूल्यों का एक विवरणपत्र संलग्न है।

(ख) तथा (ग). उक्त विवरणपत्र से पता चलता है कि इन मर्दों के खुदरा मूल्यों में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है। यह बताया गया है कि इसका कारण सामग्रियों के मूल्यों, मजदूरी आदि में वृद्धि का होना है।