

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to cut the import of edible oils during the current year as compared to the previous year; and

(d) if so, to what extent and reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY):

(a) to (d) The maximum usage of imported oil in the manufacture of vanaspati has been reduced from 95 per cent to 70 per cent with effect from 1st January, 1981. This was done with a view to give an incentive for a greater production of indigenous oils, particularly non-traditional oils, in the country, as also to enable additional quantities of imported oils to be allocated for direct consumption through the Public Distribution System

The actual level of imports of edible oils during the year would depend upon the availability of indigenous edible oils in the country, the prices of oils in international and internal markets, the availability of foreign exchange and other relevant factors.

Development of Tourism in Southern States

5373. **SHRI K. A. SWAMI:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the newspaper comments about inadequate attention to development of tourism in the Southern Region; and

(b) what concrete proposals Government intend to correct this imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). The development of tourism in the Central Sector is not taken up on State-wise or region-wise basis. The schemes are

taken up for development of tourism at various centres on the basis of their potential to attract tourists and expenditure is incurred accordingly schemewise. On the basis of the above, tourism schemes were also taken up in the Southern States in the Central Sector during previous Plan periods. The expenditure incurred in the Central Sector region-wise from April 1956 to March 1980 is given below:-

	Rs. crores
1. Northern Region (6 States & 1 Union Territory)	31.76
2. Eastern Region (5 States)	6.59
3. Western Region (3 States & 1 Union Territory)	7.16
4. Southern Region (4 States & 1 Union Territory)	12.01

From the above, it will be seen that substantial amount of funds in the Central Sector have been spent on schemes in the Southern Region. There is thus no imbalance in Central expenditure to the disadvantage of the States in the Southern Region.

Minimum Age Limit for Appointment in Nationalised banks

5374. **SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the minimum age limit for appointment in the nationalised banks for the casual and temporary staff;

(b) whether casual or temporary staff are screened for the appointment as class IV staff; and

(c) if so, facts thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (c). The minimum age limit for appointment in the subordinate cadre of nationalised banks is 18 years ir-

respective of the fact whether the appointment is against the permanent or temporary/casual vacancy. Government have advised the banks that all recruitment in the subordinate cadre should be made only through local employment exchanges irrespective of the nature and duration of the vacancies. The candidates sponsored by local employment exchanges are, however, generally screened by the banks to ensure that they fulfil the eligibility norms prescribed by the banks. The selection is normally made on the basis of personal interview of the candidates conducted by the banks.

T.F.A. indulging in anti Labour practices

5375. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware than the Trade Fair Authority is indulging in anti-labour practices by refusing settlement of staff labour problem; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this matter

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) No such cases have been reported.

(b) Does not arise.

विशाखापत्तनम इस्पात संयंत्र

5376. श्री राम प्यारै पतिन्का : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि विशाखापत्तनम इस्पात संयंत्र परियोजना के कब तक पूरा हो जाने की आशा है और इस पर अनुमानतः कूल कितनी लागत आयेंगी ?

बाणिज्य तथा इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : विशाखापत्तनम इस्पात कारखाने का प्रथम चरण (12 लाख टन) कारखाने का निर्माण कार्य आरम्भ होने के 4

वर्षों में और दूसरा चरण (34 लाख टन) उसके दो वर्षों के अन्दर चालू हो जाएगा। आशा है मुख्य-मुख्य उत्पादन इकाइयों की नींव डालने का कार्य अक्टूबर, 1981 में शुरू हो जाएगा।

कूल अनुमानित लागत, जिसकी सरकार ने जून, 1979 में मंजूरी दी थी, 2,256 करोड़ रुपये है, लेकिन इस अनुमानित राशि की मंजूरी देते समय यह शर्त रखी गई थी कि आधुनिक प्राद्योगिकियों तथा अन्तिम रूप से निश्चित प्रोडक्ट-मिक्श के आधार पर संशोधित विस्तृत परियोजना प्रतिवेदन के अनुसार स्टील अथारिटी आफ इंडिया लिमिटेड (सेल) सरकार को परियोजना की लागत के पक्के अनुमान प्रस्तुत करेंगी। व्यापक संशोधित विस्तृत परियोजना प्रतिवेदन तथा विशेषज्ञ समिति की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर सेल के निदेशक-मंडल ने हाल में परियोजना के लिए 2935.41 करोड़ रुपये के लागत अनुमान का अनुमान किया है। संशोधित लागत अनुमान तथा विशेषज्ञ समिति की रिपोर्ट प्राप्त होने पर सरकार की संशोधित मंजूरी प्राप्त करने के लिए आगे कारवाई की जाएगी।

Permission to Tax Assistants to Appear in Departmental Examination for ITO (Group-B)

5377. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR-Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 303 on the 27th June, 1980 regarding permission to Tax Assistants to appear in Departmental Examination for ITO and state:

(a) whether the Departmental Council of the Ministry of Finance has submitted its recommendations to allow the Tax Assistants to appear in the Departmental Examination for Income-tax Officers (Group-B) in the Income-tax Department; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereon?