

lakhs of rupees being paid as free to M/s. Kumar Textiles, Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Some of the Subsidiary Companies of the NTC have engaged this firm as their agents for sale of their products through DGS&D and other Governmental agencies. The firm is charging fees ranging from 1-1/2 per cent to 3 per cent of the net value of the goods contracted and supplied.

(c) NTC (Holding Company) and only two out of nine Subsidiary Companies of NTC are having their liaison offices at Bombay and Delhi.

(d) The services rendered by the Agent have been useful to the NTC.

राजस्थान के उद्योगों और नागरिक पूति विभाग को इस्पात का आवंटन

2903. श्री अशोक गहलोत : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान के लघु, मध्यम दर्जे के और बड़े उद्योगों तथा वहाँ के नागरिक पूति विभाग को कितने इस्पात का आवंटन किया गया और उनकी मांग की तुलना में उन्हें कितना इस्पात दिया गया ;

(ख) राजस्थान ने कितने इस्पात की मांग की थी और उसे वास्तव में कितना दिया गया ;

(ग) चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में राजस्थान ने कितने इस्पात की मांग की है ; और

(घ) उसकी मांग की तुलना में अब तक कितना इस्पात आवंटित किया गया है ?

वाणिज्य तथा इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी) : (क) से (घ). इस्पात के वितरण पर कोई कानूनी नियंत्रण नहीं है। इस्पात सामग्री का वितरण संयुक्त संघर्ष समिति द्वारा लोहे और इस्पात सामग्री के वितरण के लिए बनाये गए और प्रकाशित किए गए मार्गदर्शी सिद्धांतों के अनुसार किया जाता है। इन मार्गदर्शी सिद्धांतों में राज्यदार आवंटन करने की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। अतः "आवंटन" के मुकाबले में वास्तविक मण्डाई की तुलना करना सम्भव नहीं है।

Export market in Latin American countries

2904. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during his recent tour of Latin American countries, he found prospects to establish our markets for exports there; and

(b) if so, what steps are being proposed to be taken to establish the export markets there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). Commerce Minister had visited Argentina and Brazil from 27th to 31st July, 1981. Besides holding a Conference of Heads of Missions and Commercial Representatives matters relating to bilateral trade were discussed with the respective Governments. Discussions were also held with the members of trade and industry in these countries. In order to establish export markets in Latin America, Government are encouraging contacts between the Indian Industries and

their counterparts in Latin America. Study-cum-Sales delegations are also being organised. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry have entered into arrangements for setting up joint institutional mechanism for the exchange of information relating to trade. Efforts are also being made to explore the possibilities of establishing appropriate shipping linkages between India and Latin America.

Import of Cocoa

2905. SHRI E. K. IMBICHI-BAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the internal requirement of Cocoa and which are the companies producing cocoa products;

(b) whether production in Kerala is sufficient for the internal consumption;

(c) if so, the reasons why Government of India issued licence for import of cocoa at the cost of poor Kerala farmers; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the Cocoa produced in Kerala and Karnataka States does not contain acidity and vested interests are making false propaganda to the detriment of the farmers and the national interests?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) The estimated internal requirements of dry cocoa beans during 1981-82 will be around 2,000 metric tonnes. The major consumers producing cocoa products are:

M/s. Kaira Dist. Cooperative Milk Producers Union Ltd., Anand.

M/s. Cadbury India Ltd., Bombay.

M/s. Sathé Biscuit & Chocolate Co. Ltd., Pune.

Dr. Writer's Chocolates & Canning Co., Bombay.

M/s. Jaga'jit Industries Ltd., Hamira.

M/s. HMM Ltd., Nabha.

M/s. Cocoa Products & Beverages Ltd., Madras.

M/s. Alvitone Laboratories, Madras.

M/s. Food, Fats & Fertilisers Ltd., Tadepalligudam.

(b) to (d). While indigenous production of cocoa beans is sufficient, it was considered advisable to allow a small import of cocoa beans for blending purposes to help current operations of the industry with a view to maximising demand for Indian Cocoa pending scientific investigations leading to sophisticated technology, technical know-how and processing skills in regard to acidity content of Indian cocoa, and thereby eliminate even small import of cocoa beans.

Requirement, production and import of natural rubber

2906. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual requirement of natural rubber to feed the industries in India;

(b) the total production of natural rubber in India;

(c) what is the share of Kerala State; and

(d) what is the quantity of natural rubber imported annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a), (b) and (d). The figures of production, consumption and im-