

of 67,500 tonnes per annum). The mill is undertaking an integrated modernisation and renovation programme to raise the capacity to 75,000 tonnes per annum. The newsprint project of Mysore Paper Mills Ltd. for a capacity of 75,000 tonnes per annum and the Kerala Newsprint Project of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. for a capacity of 80,000 tonnes per annum are also expected to commence commercial production by 1982-83.

The undermentioned schemes have also been licensed and are in preliminary stages of implementation:

M/s. Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Paper Ltd.—50,000 tonnes per annum.

M/s. Century Pulp and Paper Co.—20,000 tonnes per annum.

Applications received from entrepreneurs for setting up new units are considered on merits.

उत्तर प्रदेश के अल्मोड़ा और पिथौरा गढ़ जिलों में चाय-उत्पादन की संभावनायें

3081. श्री हरीश रावत : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि --

(क) क्या चाय बोर्ड ने उत्तर प्रदेश के पिथौरागढ़ और अल्मोड़ा जिले के कुछ भागों में चाय-उत्पादन की संभावनाओं का पता लगाया है ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो क्या उनका विचार इस प्रकार की संभावनाओं का पता लगाने के निदेश जारी करने का है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री पी. ए. संगमा) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

India's contribution to International Tea Committee

3082. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the decline in tea exports from India to U.K. during 1981, India's contribution to the International Tea Committee, London, has also been lowered; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Contribution to the International Tea Committee, London by producer/exporter members depend on the total budget of the Committee as well as the average export performance of members in all markets including the U.K., over the three preceding calendar years. India's contribution for the year 1982 was lower at Pound Sterling 4590 as compared to Pound Sterling 5040 in 1981.

Manufacture of soap by Hindustan Lever Ltd.

3083. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6956 on 8 April, 1981—regarding common goods manufactured by M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd. and state:

(a) whether 1,63,726 metric tonnes of soaps has been produced by Hindustan Lever, a subsidiary of Uni Lever, U.K. during the year 1980;

(b) whether bulk of production of soaps is manufactured out of traditional oils;

(c) whether company's claim related to use of sophisticated technology in the manufacture of soaps is wholly confined to the use of minor oils like Neem, Karanja and Sal etc.;

(d) whether bulk of the production and its turnover continues to be drawn from soaps; and

(e) whether claim of the company that 70 per cent of its turnover consists of Appendix I activities is not based on facts, if so, the reasons for not implementing the directions of the Reserve Bank of India to the company for bringing down its foreign equity holding to a minimum of 40 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) During 1980 the company produced 1,63,724 tonnes of soap.

(b) No, Sir. Around 70 per cent of the oils consumed is non-traditional and non-edible in nature.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 42 per cent of the turnover is on account of soap production.

(e) The representations made by the company seeking its eligibility to retain 51 per cent foreign equity under FERA guidelines do not depend solely on the nature of technology involved in the manufacture of processed triglycerides. The company has drawn attention to certain other provisions of the FERA guidelines also and these are under consideration. It is hoped that a final decision on

these representations will be taken shortly.

Import of Milk Powder

3084. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any increase in the quantity of milk powder imported during the last three years;

(b) if so, to what extent, year-wise;

(c) whether Government have made any assessment regarding the consumption of milk in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) A statement of import during 1978-79, 1979-80 and 1980-81 (upto October, 1980) is attached. Statistics for the period after October, 1980 has not yet been compiled.

(c) No, Sir. It would be difficult to have any precise assessment of this item.

(d) Does not arise.