

The range of market prices for virginia tobacco in Andhra Pradesh for various

grades for the years 1980 to 1983 are given below :—

(Rs. per quintal)

Grade	1980	1981	1982	1983
1/V	900-1050	1050-1100	1200-1350	1000-1400
2/V	700-850	700-900	950-1000	700-1000
3/V	300-550	—	—	—
5/V	200-300	300-400	850-900	} Prices not available as marketing is not yet complete.
6/V	—	150-300	800-850	
8/V	80-150	100-200	650-850	

News Report Captioned "Steel Frame Or White Elephant"

7565. SHRI R. N. RAKESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-report (Times of India—7-3-83) entitled 'Steels Frame or white Elephant' in respect of public sector units and if so, whether Government propose to take corrective steps and reduce the stronghold of IAS bureaucracy in the Ministries of these units ;

(b) whether it is correct that gross profit ratio to capital invested is very poor in public sector units as compared to private units and if so, the corrective steps to be taken ;

(c) whether Government are aware that a profit of about Rs.500 crores for 1981-82 is not adequate considering investment of Rs. 25,000 crores ; and

(d) whether Government propose to undertake similar comparative analysis of different categories such as steel, chemicals, hotels etc. between public and private units and ensure better profits and working and plug the loopholes including corruption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) Government do not share the view that any section of bureaucracy in the Ministries/Departments has any strong hold on public sector units. In our democratic system, Government is accountable to people through Parliament with regard to the proper functioning of public sector units and hence the Ministries/Departments have to ensure that the public sector units coming under their purview function within the framework of policies/guidelines prescribed by Government. Discharge of this legitimate and necessary function by the Ministries/Departments cannot be described as stronghold of any section of bureaucracy on public sector units.

(b) to (d) The ratio of gross profit to capital employed in the Central public undertakings has shown significant improvement over the past two years. This ratio which was 7.69%, 7.6% and 7.9% during 1978-79, 1979-80 and 1980-81 respectively has significantly increased to 12.23% during 1981-82. Based on the provisional data for 1982-83 in respect of 161 enterprises this ratio has further improved. While various measures are taken by Government from time to time to improve the performance of public enterprises, it will not be a correct index

to compare the profitability of these enterprises with those in the private sector. Public Enterprises have not been set up with the sole objective of making profits. Their objectives are multi-dimensional covering such varied aspects as given below :

- (i) to help in the rapid economic growth and industrialisation of the country and create the necessary infrastructure for economic development ;
- (ii) to create employment opportunities ;
- (iii) to promote re-distribution of income and wealth ;
- (iv) to promote balanced regional development.
- (v) to assist the development of small scale and ancillary industries ; and
- (vi) to promote import substitution, save and earn foreign exchange for the economy.

Thus aspects like the development of backward regions, provision of public utility services at subsidised rates, selling basic inputs or products at administered prices, providing medical, educational and housing facilities to employees, obligations of public enterprises as model employers etc. are some additional aspects which have to be kept in view in any balanced assessment of overall performance of public enterprises *vis-a-vis* private sector.

Private Parties To Operate Small Aircraft

7566. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) is it a fact that income from tourism is lower this year compared to last year; if so, reasons therefor; and

(b) do Government propose to allow private parties to operate small aircraft to

cater to the needs of tourists, if yes, the details and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. The foreign exchange earning from tourism during 1982 has been estimated at Rs. 750 crores compared to Rs. 702 crores for the year 1981.

(b) The Government have not placed any ban on private parties operating small aircraft to cater the needs of tourists.

Export Of Rice Bran Meal

7567. SHRI DEEN BANDHU VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a vast potential for exporting rice bran meal to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to encourage the exports of rice bran meal which is a good foreign exchange earner ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Exports of deoiled rice bran extractions in the last 5 years are given below :—

Year	Qty. (Lakh tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1978-79	4.46	18.00
1979-80	5.28	29.89
1980-81	5.13	29.55
1981-82	5.79	33.64
1982-83	3.00	19.32

(b) Exports are permitted within a limited ceiling after taking into account the domestic requirements.

Income Tax Raids Of Film Stars In Bombay, Calcutta And Madras

7569. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :