

likely to be exported during the current year and to which country ;

(c) the number of cotton bales exported during the year 1982-83 ; and

(d) the name of the agency through which cotton will be purchased and exported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b) Government of India have released for export during the current year a quantity of two lakh bales of staple cotton. However, the decision with regard to export of cotton is taken after taking into account the demand and supply position from time to time. It is too early to forecast the quantity to be exported during the whole of the current cotton season. The destinations to which these exports will take place will be known when deals by Exporting Agencies are finalised with foreign buyers.

(c) Approximately 7.14 lakh bales.

(d) Quotas for export of staple cotton have been released in favour of Cotton Corporation of India Ltd., and State Marketing Federation viz. Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation and Gujarat State Cooperative Cotton Marketing Federation. The purchases will be made by the exporting agencies.

Decrease in Export of HPS Groundnut

1838. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of HPS groundnut is decreasing day by day ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the amount of the HPS groundnut exported during the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and likely to be exported during the current year ;

(d) the name of the agency through whom the export is being made ;

(e) whether it is also a fact that there is a great demand of HPS groundnut in foreign countries ; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by Government to boost the export of HPS groundnut ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c) Export of HPS Groundnuts is allowed within a limited ceiling and is canalised through NAFED.

Exports in 1981-82 and 1982-83 are as under :

	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1981-82	33537	3825.46
1982-83	23042	2034.88

The export season for 1983-84 has just commenced and therefore it is too early to make an assessment.

(d) to (f) For maximising export within the ceiling released, it has been decided to allow private trade also to export HPS Groundnuts under the overall policy of canalisation through NAFED. There is a substantial demand for HPS Groundnut in the world market at present.

New Visa Procedure

1839. SHRI P.M. SAYEED :
SHRI B.V. DESAI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is losing about 100 crores per annum in foreign exchange on account of the Government's decision to clamp visa for all tourists coming into the country ;

(b) if so, whether country is losing about 10 per cent of the floating tourists in flow annually as a result of the imposition of the new visa procedure ;

(c) if so, whether in view of heavy losses, Government are considering any change ; and

(d) if not, the measures being considered to overcome the loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION : (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM