

(a) the unilateral promotion strategy of Tea Board that has been evolved for augmenting the exports; and

(b) the efforts that are being made for a new international agreement on prices, production and quotas among tea-producing countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) In order to promote exports of tea, the Tea Board undertakes uninational promotion and generic promotion abroad. Board's uninational promotional strategy includes promotional support to Indian exporters for boosting export of packet teas and tea bags, joint collaboration schemes to promote Indian tea, limited media publicity abroad and arranging for visit of tea importers to India etc. In addition, facilities like Cash Compensatory Support, duty draw back, warehousing assistance and Brand Promotion Scheme are also in vogue to promote exports of tea.

(b) A meeting of the three major Tea Producers was recently held under the aegis of UNCTAD to discuss the possibilities of an International Tea Agreement. No consensus has however so far emerged in this regard.

Allotment of Shares by Lipton India Limited

1852. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Lipton India Limited has recently been permitted by Reserve Bank to allot certain shares and receive huge amount from M/s. Unilever PLC ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a)

and (b) Permission was given by the Reserve Bank of India, Calcutta on 23rd May, 1984 to M/s. Lipton India Limited, Calcutta to issue 48,00,000 equity shares of Rs. 10/- each for cash at par to M/s. Unilever PLC, U. K. who hold 40% equity in the Indian company. This was in pursuance of the approval granted on 7th September, 1983 under the Capital Issues (Control) Act, to M/s. Lipton India Ltd. to issue further equity capital of Rs. 12 crores which includes issue of Rs. 4.80 crores worth of shares to Unilever PLC, U.K.

Grant of Loans to Units of Pandaul by Central Bank, Madhubani and Punjab National Bank, Benepatti

1853. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5727 on 30th March, 1984 regarding credit advanced to industries set up at Pandaul by financial institutions and state :

(a) whether the remaining 15 units of Pandaul have been granted loans as working capital ; and

(b) the total amount of loans granted by Central Bank, Madhubani and Punjab National Bank, Benepatti almost in fictitious names and the steps being taken for recovery ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Technical and Financial Aid offered by Hungary for Rural Water Supply

1854. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a trade delegation from Hungary has offered technical and financial aid for implementation of the various points of the 20-Point Programme

especially the rural water supply and rural electrification ; and

(b) if so, the specific points in respect of which the aid has been offered and the steps since taken to enter into agreements with respect thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Aid offered by U.K. for Economic Development in Rural Areas

1855. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Kingdom has offered aid for economic development in rural areas ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The assistance from the UK Government is available for mutually agreed projects irrespective of their location in urban or rural areas. The UK Government do not offer any assistance specifically assigned for the rural areas. The assistance is available for both import of goods and services from UK and for financing local costs of mutually agreed projects, including poverty—alleviation projects.

Rejection of Proposal of National Textile Corporation for increasing output of Polyester Cloth

1856. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have rejected the proposal of the National Textile Corporation to increase four-fold output of polyester ; and

(b) if so, the reason thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) There is no such proposal from the National Textile Corporation.

(b) Does not arise.

Criticism of Public Sector by F. I. C. C. I.

1857. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken note of the resolutions passed by the recently held 57th Annual Session of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry ;

(b) whether in one of the resolutions, they have criticised that the Public Sector is incapable to supply goods and services and certain essential ingredients that help production ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) From the proceedings of the Fifty-seventh Annual Session of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, published by the Federation, no resolution seems to have been passed criticising the public sector as incapable to supply goods and services and certain essential ingredients that help production.

(c) Does not arise.