

**Imposition of Restrictions by RBI on Purchase of Rice by State Governments**

3734. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India imposed restrictions on the purchase of rice by the State Governments and/or its agencies like Civil Supplies Corporation ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government of Kerala have registered its objections to this restriction on the purchase by the State Governments ; and

(d) whether there is any restriction on the private sector in purchasing rice or other essentials ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has not imposed any restrictions on the purchase of the rice by the State Governments or its agencies. The RBI is providing food credit to the State Governments at concessional rate of interest of 12.5% for the procurement of food grains (i. e. wheat paddy, rice and coarse grains) within the State, at support prices fixed by Central Government and for the purchase of food-grains from the Central pool for distribution under the public Distribution System. But credit is authorised at a higher rate of interest of 18% for the purchase of foodgrains at prices above those fixed by the Central Government provided such purchases have the concurrence of the Central Government.

**Implementation of Guidelines from B.P.E. to NALCO, Orissa for Development of Ancillary Industries**

3735. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Bureau of public Enterprises has issued guidelines to National Aluminium Corporation, Orissa regarding development of and promotion for ancillary industries in and around mother plants ;

(b) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has received the action taken report from NALCO, Orissa since issue of the said policy guidelines ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay/non-implementation of the policy by NALCO ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA) : (a) The Bureau of public Enterprises has issued guidelines for the growth and development of Ancillary Industries by public Sector Enterprises which are applicable to National Aluminium Corporation, Orissa also.

(b) and (c) The progress report prescribed under the guidelines is normally received when the unit has gone into commercial production. Since NALCO is in the construction phase, the receipt of the report at this stage is premature.

**Free Trade Zone in Bangalore**

3736. SHRI T.R. SHAMANNA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for setting up of a Free Trade Zone in Bangalore has been received from Karnataka Government ; and

(b) if so, whether Central Government will give early approval to the proposal considering facilities available in Bangalore and Karnataka being the first State to make the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) and (b)