

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI  
A. C. GEORGE):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is at present no move to separate the two wings.

**Proposal to Exercise Control Over  
Sale and Distribution of Medium  
Variety of Cloth**

\*100. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to exercise control over sale and distribution of medium variety of cloth, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE  
(PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA).**

(a) and (b). With effect from the 1st April, 1974, production, price and distribution control has been extended to cover dhoties, sarees, long-cloth, shirting and drill of Medium 'A' category of cotton cloth, in addition to these varieties in Medium 'B' category. The sale of controlled cloth is organised through the following channels —

(i) Mills' own retail shops,

(ii) Super Bazaars in the co-operative sector,

(iii) National Consumers Co-operative Federation and the chain of co-operative institutions affiliated to them,

(iv) Fair price shops, run under the aegis of the State Government, and

(v) Any other agency in the co-operative sector, specified by the State Government concerned

**Contract for Export of Sugar**

687. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian sugar has found a favourable price in the world market,

(b) if so, whether any contracts have been entered into; and

(c) the main features thereof together with the price agreed to?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI  
A. C. GEORGE)** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Contracts for export of a total quantity of 4,63,000 tonnes of white and raw sugar valued approximately at Rs 209 crores fob have been finalised

(c) The main features of the contracts recently entered into are

(i) white and raw sugar has been sold directly to the foreign buyers and not through agents,

(ii) for bulk of the sugar sold the commission of 1/2 per cent of the sale value traditionally paid to the foreign buyers has been discontinued, and

(iii) more favourable terms of payment have been obtained for raw sugar

The average nett of fob price of white sugar works out to Rs 4971.90 per metric tonne and Rs 2,924 per metric tonne for raw sugar

**Kandla Free Trade Zone**

688. SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether business circles in Gujarat continue to be agitated over the step-motherly treatment meted

out to the Kandla free trade zone by the Central Government.

(b) if so, whether they have alleged favouritism shown to another such zone in Bombay known as 'Santa Cruz Electronics Processing Zone',

(c) whether they have demanded that Kandla zone should be given facilities to increase its competitive capacity,

(d) whether they have also suggested that there should be separate statutory provision for conducting the affairs of the Kandla zone, instead of the present system of running it through Government notifications, and

(e) if so the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE)** (a) and (b) Certain business circles in Gujarat have demanded treatment of indigenous supplies to the KFT Zone as exports and provision of transport system, clearing house facilities, etc on the lines of Santa Cruz Electronics Export Processing Zone

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir

(e) The High Powered KFTZ Steering Board under the Chairmanship of Deputy Minister of Commerce has already considered these demands and decided, in principle to treat indigenous supplies to the Zone as exports simplify the customs procedure, grant transport subsidy etc for improving the competitive capacity of the Zone industrialists Govt have already granted transport subsidy @ 1 per cent of the fob value of exports. As the existing arrangements are considered adequate there does not appear any need for a separate legislation for conducting the affairs of the KFT Zone. KFTZ and Santa Cruz Zone are two different projects and both are being implemented with equal expedition and consideration.

**Closure of Coffee Plantations in Kerala**

889 **SHRI C JANARDHANAN:** Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the closure of coffee plantations in the Wynad area in Kerala, and

(b) if so, the facts thereabout, demands raised by employees and Government's response thereto?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE)** (a) There was no closure of coffee plantations in Wynad area of Kerala, but a few large growers had stopped post-picking cultural operations such as weeding manuring etc

(b) In view of increase in labour wages in coffee plantations in Kerala State and increase in price of some inputs grower were demanding an increase in coffee prices. The Coffee Board have raised the reserve prices for pool sales with due regard to increase in costs

**Export of Basmati Rice by STC**

890 **SHRI MADHU LIMAYE** Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state

(a) the total quantity of Basmati rice exported by the State Trading Corporation last year,

(b) total foreign exchange earned.

(c) whether any dispute has arisen between the State Trading Corporation and Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation over the question of Basmati exports, and

(d) if so, whether the dispute has been resolved?