

**Fax Machines**

10400-A. SHRI M. M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy of Government regarding the indigenous manufacturing/ assembling of Fax machines;

(b) the projected demand for Fax machines for the next 2-3 years;

(c) the companies which have been issued licences to manufacture Fax machines; and

(d) the steps proposed to meet the rapidly increasing demand for Fax machines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The present policy of the Government regarding indigenous manufacture of FAX machines is to permit manufacture in public/private sector provided there is no foreign exchange outflow in the proposal. The prospective manufacturers should have adequate expertise and capability to manufacture the machines.

(b) The estimated requirement of DOT is over 1,000 machines per annum. Projections about the public demand cannot be made at this stage as FAX machines have not been introduced on a large scale.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) A few more manufacturing units will be licenced in the near future for manufacture of the machines.

**Purchase of Edible Oil by N. D. D. B.**

10400-B. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering to bring the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) under the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955;

(b) whether the NDDB is playing havoc with the edible oil market by intervening and making bulk purchases; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Government of India is not considering bringing NDDB under the purview of the Essential Commodities Act 1955.

(b) No, Sir. NDDB is carrying out market intervention operations as per the guidelines given by the Government of India. The prices of groundnut oil and mustard oil are within the prescribed limits.

(c) Government has been ensuring that market intervention operations are carried on as per the mandate given to the NDDB by Government of India.

**Ban on Trawling Along Kerala Coast**

10400-C. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: