

Board's promotional units. The main reason for the decline in sale is mounting overheads of the promotional units which makes the prices unattractive. Efforts are being made to cut down the wasteful expenditure on staff, maintenance, and contingencies, etc so as to make the coffee prices attractive to the consumers. However, overall coffee consumption in the domestic market has increased from 57,516 tonnes in the fiscal year 1988-89 to 61,132 tonnes in 1989-90.

(d) and (e). So far as exports of coffee from India is concerned, there is no decline in the exports.

(f) A scheme for increasing domestic consumption of coffee has been included in the draft VIII Plan. Apart from this, Coffee Board is already running various coffee houses/vans as a coffee promotion measure.

Some of the important export promotion measures inclusive:-

- (i) Coffee is exempt from the purview of export duty;
- (ii) A cash compensatory support of 20% is provided on the exports of instant coffee in 100 gm. tins and 18% on its exports in bulk.
- (iii) The rate of REP Licence has been increased from 4% to 10% in the new Import-Export Policy.

Development of Baikal Fort as a Tourist Centre in Kerala

8235. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala to declare Baikal Fort in Kasaragod district of Kerala for its development as a tourist centre; and

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Distribution Guidelines of Sall

8236. DR. ASMIBALA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the internal guidelines of Steel Authority of India Ltd. in respect of distribution of iron and steel billets to consumers;

(b) whether those guidelines are supplied to the consumers;

(c) whether the internal guidelines contradict the Joint Plant Committee (JPC) guidelines;

(d) whether the said internal guidelines have the approval of Government; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken to bring them in accord with JPC guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The internal distribution guidelines and procedures drawn by SAIL are meant for the guidance of its officials for the implementation of the guidelines of the Joint Plant Committee (JPC). As per the present JPC guidelines, billets/rollables available for sale are to be supplied to

eligible units on the basis of their entitlements. The present internal guidelines of SAIL follow the same principle.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. Approval of the Government is not necessary.

(e) does not arise

Sale of Billets and Semis by Steel Plants

8237. SHRIMATI MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA
SHRI MANIK SANYAL

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the quantity of scraps, billets and semis sold in auction, tenders and package deals for free trade/compensation deals by stockyards of Steel Authority of India Ltd., plant-wise for the period 1986 to December, 1989;

(b) the quantities generated of shearings, cuttings of all types, rejected ingots, butts, etc. by SAIL, plant-wise for the above period;

(c) the quantities of above material given to steel re-rollers, State-wise by SAIL,

plant-size for the above period; and

(d) the number of cases of violation by SAIL of joint Plant Committee guidelines, category-wise and plant-wise in their deals?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (d). The precise information desired is not available. Moreover, compilation of such elaborate data involves considerable labour and time and may not be commensurate with the ultimate results sought to be achieved.

Talks on Trade and Economies with Foreign Countries

8238. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries with which trade and economies talks have been held during the last six months;

(b) the outcome of the talks held particularly with the United States;

(c) whether talks with some countries have failed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) to (d). A statement is given below.