

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Drugs and pharmaceuticals are exported from India in the form of bulk drugs, drug intermediates and formulations.

(b) These are exported to USA, USSR, UK, France, Japan, Italy, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Australia, Singapore, Hongkong, Thailand, Korea, Taiwan, Nigeria, Kenya, Zambia, UAE, etc.

(c) The value of exports of drugs and pharmaceuticals during 1988-89 and 1989-90 was Rs. 400.2 crores and Rs. 664.7 crores, respectively.

Sale of Tea in Economy size packets

3803. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to ask the tea manufacturers to increase supplies in economy size packets; and

(b) if so, Government directives in this respect and how Government propose to ensure implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN) (a) The tea producers have been asked to make available about 10 million kgs of tea to be sold in packet form through retail outlets at a price of about Rs. 40 per kg. plus local taxes.

(b) State Governments and National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF) have been asked to make arrangement and to sell the economy packed teas in the various parts of the country. A Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary has been set up to monitor the tea availability and prices.

[Translation]

Loans for House Building in Gujarat

3804. SHRI C. D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people from Gujarat who have applied for loans for house building from housing finance institutions in public sector banks during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number out of them to whom loans have been sanctioned, year-wise, and the amount disbursed as loan by June, 1990; and

(c) the reasons for not sanctioning the loans to all the applicants and the time by which their loans are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE):

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

Rules Regarding Stocks lying with Gum Exporters

3805. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rules formulated by Government in the light of new Import-Export policy in regard to the stocks lying with gum exporters; and

(b) the time by which these stocks are proposed to be purchased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Export of Gum Karaya is canalised through the Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited. (TRIFED). Under transitional arrangements direct exports of material

held by individual exporters could have been permitted provided such exports were covered by irrevocable Letters of Credit opened by foreign buyers. As regards balance stocks, with exporters if any, the procurement thereof by the Canalising Agency TRIFED is subject to mutual negotiations between the parties.

[English]

Irregularities in Steel Distribution

3806. SHRI SHEO SHARAN VERMA:
SHRI NANDLAL MEENA:
SHRI B.N. REDDY:
SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:
SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:
SHRI HARISH PAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the internal enquiry committee had pointed out a number of irregularities in steel distribution to a few units by Branch Sales Office, SAIL, New Delhi in their Report dated 21-10-89;

(b) if so, the details of the Report alongwith the details of action taken arising out of the Report;

(c) whether in two other Audit Reports (December, 89 and January, 90) it had also been adversely commented upon;

(d) if so, the details of these reports alongwith the details of action taken thereon;

(e) the reasons for appointing the two High Level Committees in SAIL in this regard;

(f) the term of reference of each Committee, dates of their constitution and dates of submission of Reports, separately;

(g) the details of the Reports of both the Committees; and

(h) the reasons for contradiction in the above three Reports if any?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b) The Internal Committee appointed by the Zonal Manager (North), SAIL, New Delhi, had, inter-alia brought out the following in its Report of 21-10-89:

1. Due to lack of availability of certain documents and clarity, no comments could be made on some of the allegations which the internal committee was asked to investigate.
2. There was a possibility of insertion in the demand registered by some parties.
3. Materials have been given to some parties which were not included in their capacity certificates.

The Zonal Manager, who had appointed the Committee, discussed the report with the concerned Branch Managers and also the Committee Members. It was concluded that guidelines/clarifications regarding capacity have been followed by the branch. Records which were not seen by the Committee earlier were also got checked by the branch and it was asked to take appropriate steps for safe custody of the applications. No further action was considered necessary by the Zonal Manager.

(c) and (d) In Government Audit Memos No. 10 and 11 of December '89/January '90, certain observations