

annum from the date on which the payment was due.

(c) and (d) Except a few factories, all the factories of State have crushed entire bonded cane which was available for supply to them. Some of the factories have continued crushing operation upto the end of July 1996 and some of the Khandsari units have also continued crushing till end of June 1996. No incidence of destroying cane crop by farmers has been reported so far. Legal action has been initiated against the factories which have not purchased cane offered to them by cane societies and also with respect to compensating losses of cane grower.

(e) and (f) Sugar factories have a defined reserved area for purchase of sugarcane and cane is supplied through Cooperative cane societies in an organised manner whereas there exists no such system for the cane supplied for other alternative uses viz Khandsari/Gur making, chewing, seed etc. Govt, fixed the price of sugarcane supplied to sugar factories only & price of sugarcane supplied to other uses is decided on the basis of prevailing market price.

Constitution of Disinvestment Board

1683. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Disinvestment Board was recently constituted;

(b) if so, the details of its activities since its constitution; and

(c) the percentage of the proceeds from disinvestment of PSUs share likely to be spent on restructuring the sick PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) A disinvestment Commission has been constituted by the Government on 23.8.96. Its terms of reference are given

in the enclosed statement. (see below) 40 PSUs have been referred to its which it is studying with a view to advising the Govt, on disinvestment. A part of proceeds from Disinvestment of PSUs shares would be used for a Fund to strengthen public sector enterprises.

Statement

Terms of reference of Disinvestment Commission

1. (i) To draw a comprehensive overall long term disinvestment programme within 5 to 10 years for the PSUs referred to it by the Core Group,
- (ii) To determine the extent of disinvestment (total/partial indicating percentage) in each of the PSU.
- (iii) To prioritise the PSUs referred to it by the Core Group in terms of the overall disinvestment programme.
- (iv) To recommend the preferred mode (s) of disinvestment (domestic capital markets/ international capital markets/ auction/private sale to identified investors/any other) for each of the identified PSUs. Also to suggest an appropriate mix of the various alternatives taking into account the market conditions,
- (v) To recommend a mix between primary and secondary disinvestment taking into account the Government's objective, the relevant PSU's funding requirement and the market conditions,
- (vi) To supervise the overall sale process and take decisions on instrument, pricing, timing, etc. as appropriate,
- (vii) To select the financial advisers for the specified PSUs to facilitate the disinvestment process.

- (viii) To ensure that appropriate measures are taken during the disinvestment process to protect the interests of the effected employees including encouraging employees' participation in the sale process.
- (ix) To monitor the progress of disinvestment process and take necessary measures and report periodically to the Government on such progress.
- (x) To assist the Government to create public awareness of the Government's disinvestment policies and programmes with a view * to developing a commitment by the people.
- (xi) To give wide publicity to the disinvestment proposals so as to ensure larger public participation in the shareholding of the enterprises; and
- (xii) To advise the Government on possible capital restructuring of the enterprises by marginal investments, if required, so as to ensure enhanced realisation through disinvestment.

2. The Disinvestment Commission will be an advisory body and the Government will take a final decision on the companies to be disinvested and mode of disinvestment on the basis of advice given by the Disinvestment Commission. The PSUs would implement the decision of the Government under the overall supervision of the Disinvestment Commission.

3. The Commission while advising the Government on the above matters will also take into consideration the interest of stakeholders, workers, consumers and other having a stake in the relevant public sector undertakings.

Export of Chillies

1684. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA

NAHATA:

DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export of chillies during the last three years;

(b) whether any consignment was rejected on account of infection with fungus;

(c) the measures taken to ensure that export stock of chillies is not infected with fungus; and

(d) the target set for export in 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLABULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The total quantity and value of chillies exported during the last 3 years are given below:—

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value Rs. Crores
1993-94	30,776	72.14
1994-95	20,096	57.12
1995-96(P)	56,073	194.15

(Source: Spices Board, Kochi, DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(b) No Sir.

(c) Training programmes on post harvest handling of chillies are conducted jointly by the Spices Board and the Departments of Agriculture of the State Governments. In such training programmes, growers are being advised to store harvested pods in heaps either indoors or in shades away from direct sunlight for 2-3 days so as to develop uniform red colour at 22-25 C. Subsequent to this, pods should be dried in the sun by spreading them out on clean, dry mats, cemented or concreted surfaces/terraces etc. ensuring that the product does not get any contamination