

sectors who export at least 50 per cent of their produce. The definition of manufacture and 'capital goods' has been extended to include agricultural and allied activities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

*115. [Transferred to 13th May, 1993]

Inadequate allocation of essential commodities to Karnataka under P.D.S.

*116. SHRI OM HARTPRASAD : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantum of allocations for essential commodities such as kerosene, rice, wheat, edible oil and sugar, for Karnataka has been static for last many years and is not keeping pace with increasing population, urbanisation, and shortage of conventional fuels like firewood and coal;

(b) what are the reasons for such discrimination being shown to Karnataka in comparison to other States; and

(c) whether the Central Government propose to release more quantum of essential commodities on a rational basis?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) (a) to (c) Allocation of essential commodities other than levy sugar are made for the Public Distribution System (PDS) on a month to month basis, taking into account availability of stocks in the Central Pool, inter se requirements of the States/UTs, seasonal factors etc. Levy sugar is allocated normally on the basis of 425 gm per capita per month on the projected population in the States/UTs as on 1-10-1986. Allocations of essential

commodities for the PDS are not increased to any States/UT to keep pace with the increase in the population of the State/UT. There has been no discrimination against Karnataka in comparison to the other States in this regard.

Inclusion of more items for sale under PDS

*117. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to include some more items for sale through the Public Distribution System in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when a decision will be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY):

(a) to (c) The Central Government arranges for procurement, storage and transportation of key essential commodities such as rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene, imported edible oil and soft coke for distribution through the Public Distribution System (PDS). Bulk allocations of these commodities are made to the State Governments.

The Central Government has advised (the States/UTs) to include other commodities of mass consumption for distribution to consumers as per local requirement. The question of distribution of additional commodities was discussed at the 13th meeting of the Advisory Council on PDS held in August, 1991 and it was agreed that the State Governments could include items such as pulses, tea, washing soaps and iodised salt for distribution through the PDS outlets. National level organisations such as National Can-

sumer Cooperative Federation (NCJCF), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Tea Trading Corporation etc. would provide assistance, if required, in the procurement of these commodities and make them available to the States UTs.

Abolition of Bonded and Child Labour

*118. SHRI SOM PAL:

SHRI MURLIBHAR CHANDRA-KANT SHANOARE : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Constitution provides to Children a Fundamental Right against forced labour and employment in any factory, mine or any other hazardous employment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of children are working in various industries;

(c) if so, what is the estimated number of such children industry-wise and vocation-wise;

(d) whether it is also fact that developed countries like the USA are bringing legislations to impose a ban on importing items being manufactured by such industries which are employing children;

(e) whether any action plan has been formulated by the Government of India to do away with child labour;

(f) if so, what are the details thereof;

(Z) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(h) what is the number of bonded labourers in India; and

(f) what steps are being taken for their identification and rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No Survey has been conducted which reveals child labour industry-wise and vocation-wise.

(d) A private member's bill to this effect is understood to have been moved in the US Senate.

(e) to (g) Since total abolition of child labour is not presently considered feasible steps are being taken towards its progressive elimination.

(h) As on 31-3-92 a total of 2,50,289 bonded labourers have been identified and freed.

(i) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 provides for identification and abolition of bonded labour. The number of bonded labour rehabilitated tiil 31-3-92 is 2,23,141. With a view to supplement their efforts 50 percent grant is given to State Governments under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour. Under the scheme, financial assistance is given at the rate of Rs. 6250 per bonded labour w.e.f. 1-2-1986.

देश में कोयला खानें

*119 श्री बाहुम्बर अफजल उर्फ श्रीम अफजल क्या कोयला खानें बंद बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि ?

(क) देश में कुल कितनी कोयला खानें हैं ;

(ख) इन खानों में कितने व्यक्ति काम कर रहे हैं ; और

(ग) पिछले पांच वर्षों के दौरान इन खानों में प्रतिवर्ष निकाले गए कोयले का व्यौरा क्या है ?

कोयला संसाधन के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार शर्मा) : : (क) कोल इंडिया लि. (को. इ. लि.) के अनुसार ऐसी कोयला खानें जहां कि खनन कार्य किया जा रहा है उनकी कुल संख्या 449 है। इसके अलावा सिंगरेनी कोलियरीज कंपनी लि. (सि. को. कं. लि.) (जॉकि