

amount has been paid by making limited diversion of money from other sources. Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. is responsible for running day-to-day affairs of the tea gardens owned by it. The Corporation has been advised to tone up working of its Gardens Division so as to generate sufficient surpluses to meet all expenses.

चाय का उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाना

1873. चौधरी हरि सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने चाय का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये फरवरी, 1994 में 20 करोड़ रुपये की किसी योजना की घोषणा की है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) उक्त योजना का कार्यान्वयन कब किया जाएगा ; और

(घ) चाय उत्पादन वाले किन-किन क्षेत्रों में यह धनराशि खर्च किये जाने की सम्भावना है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) से (घ) वित्तीय वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान चाय बोर्ड की विभिन्न योजना, स्कीमों के कार्यान्वयन के लिये बजट प्रावधान 1994-95 में 20 करोड़ रुपये के परिव्यय का प्रस्ताव किया गया है। प्रस्तावित परिव्यय में सरकार द्वारा अनुमोदित विभिन्न चालू एवं नई योजनाओं के लिये 10.39 करोड़ रुपये के ऋण के रूप में, 5.79 करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी इस्पाद के रूप में तथा 2.82 करोड़ रुपये सहायता अनुदान के रूपों में शामिल है। सहायता अनुदान में से 2.14 करोड़ रुपये छह नई अनुसंधान योजनाओं और दो विकास योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन के लिए निर्धारित किए गए हैं। इस सम्पूर्ण परिव्यय का उपयोग सारे भारत के चाय बागानों की

विकास योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन के लिए किया जाएगा और किसी पृथक चाय उत्पादक क्षेत्र के लिये कोई विशिष्ट राशि निर्धारित नहीं की गई है।

Commerce Minister's Statement on Exit Policy

1874. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHBHAWARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact during a visit to the annual meeting of World Economic Forum at Davos, Commerce Minister was particularly asked about Exit Policy in India, and

(b) whether same assurance has been given to foreign investors on the count of Exit Policy ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Foreign Exchange Earning through Export of Foodgrains

1875. SHRI ASHOK MITRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the foreign exchange earned from export of foodgrains in each of the year since 1990-91 ;

(b) the details of the principal foodgrains exported in these year ;

(c) the targets set for such exports for each of the next five years ; and

(d) whether Government are satisfied that such export do not affect the domestic price level and the interest of domestic consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The details of foodgrains exported and foreign

exchange earned therefrom since 1990-91 are as under :—

Year		Rice	Wheat	Other Cereals
1990-91	Qty.	505029	139470	7310
	Value	461.57	31.13	2.77
1991-92	Qty.	678463	586519	14150
	Value	755.58	126.98	7.01
1992-93	Qty.	606980	37278	17079
	Value	971.93	10.17	10.13
1993-94	Qty.	468428	35000	44465
	Value	775.62	0.18	12.61

(April—November, 1993)

(Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta)

(c) Itemwise targets of foodgrains export for the next five years have not been fixed.

(d) It is the policy of Government to allow the export of items of mass consumption in such a manner that it does not compromise our food security.

Patent Right of Medicinal Plants

1876. SHRI ASHOK MITRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that because of the new GATT treaty, foreigners will henceforth have an unrestricted right to take out medicinal and other plant out of the country.

(b) whether it is also a fact that medicines manufactured overseas with the help of the extracts from such plants will enjoy patent right in our country ; and

(c) whether legal opinion has been sought on the claim of patent rights on medicinal plants subjected to exports ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Medicines manufactured overseas with the help of extracts from Indian plants will be eligible for patents in India only in accordance with the provisions of our own national laws on the subject, Under our existing patent laws,

product patents are not granted in the area of drugs, pharmaceuticals chemicals and food products. Even in future we do not intend to grant any patents in case of naturally occurring substances including general sequences.

Implications of GATT on India's Environment

1877. SHRI ASHOK MITRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an indepth study has been undertake on the implications of the new GATT treaty on India's environment ;

(b) if so, the principal conclusions reached in the study ; and

(c) whether, before the GATT agreement is finalised at the ministerial meeting scheduled for March, 1994, efforts would be made to introduce suitable changes in the draft in order to care of the concerns aired by environmental experts ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Government have not undertaken such a study.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposed Uruguay Round GATT Agreement does not contain any new provisions relating to Environment. However, a Group on Environmental measures and International Trade has been working in