

[27 November, 2001] RAJYA SABHA

- (ii) Indian exports of gold jewellery to U.A.E., Spain, Kuwait, Fiji, France, Newzealand have shown an upward trend during the period April-October 2001 *vis-a-vis* the corresponding period of the previous year.

Export on onions from Karnataka

936. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Karnataka has sought the permission for the State agencies to export onion from Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka had requested for appointment of Karnataka State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd., (KSCMF), Bangalore as an additional State Trading Enterprise for export of Bangalore Rose Onion and North Karnataka Onion Growers Cooperative Society as another State Trading Enterprise for export of other varieties of Onion. The above recommendations were accepted by Government of India and these two agencies were included as additional State Trading Enterprise for export of Bangalore Rose Onions and other varieties of Onions respectively. The notifications in this regard were issued on 12.10.2001 and 27.7.2001 respectively.

Decline in leather export

937. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware that global footwear producers including Reebok and Nike have decided to stop

purchasing leather from India following investigation by PETA that industry had engaged in "unlawful" slaughter and transport of animals; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken so that leather industry does not suffer and exports earning attributed to leather industry are not adversely affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Council for Leather Exports has brought to the notice of the Government that while companies like Timber Land have suspended their further procurement of shoes and leather products from India, some other companies have expressed their concern over the use of cow leather in the manufacture of shoes and other accessories.

Government have taken a number of steps including establishing of contacts with such multi-national organisations and addressing of issues raised by these organisations. The issue is not expected to have a perceptible adverse impact on the export of shoes and other accessories from India.

Industrial establishment In Meghalaya

938. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised for promotion and development of industrial sector in Meghalaya during the last three years;

(b) whether there are any project under consideration of Government for setting up of industrial establishment in Shillong and in other towns of the state under the new industrial policy during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003;

(c) if so, the project-wise details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) The