

celerate the growth of food processing industries which include industries for processing of agricultural and horticultural produce. Some of the principal steps include the placing of these industries in Appendix-I List of Industries, broad banding of the scheduled industries under items 27(1) and 27(5) of the First Schedule to the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, concessions granted during the budget of 1989-90, etc.

One of the objectives of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is creation of increased job opportunities in the rural areas through the setting up of agro-based industries.

Setting up of export processing zone at Visakhapatnam

409. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have so far been taken for the setting up of an Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) what is the time-frame for completing the project?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The setting up of Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone has been approved by the Government of India and was notified on 15-3-1989. The Central Government has also released part payment to the State Government towards the cost of land for the Zone. Orders relating to the transfer of 407.82 acres of Government land in Jaggarajupeta and Narava Villages of Gajuwaka Mandal of Visakhapatnam District to the Central Government has been issued by the State Government on 30-6-1989. The Development Commissioner for the Zone has also been appointed.

(b) The basic infrastructure for the Zone is likely to be completed in two years. However, applications for setting up of units in the Zone would be entertained during the next financial year.

White paper on Indian Economy

410. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to bring out a White Paper on Indian economy;

(b) if so, whether it would also cover the period of the earlier Janata Rule from 1977-80; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a)

Government requested Economy Advisory Council to prepare a paper which has been circulated.

(b) Economy Advisory Council paper focuses on the current economic situation.

(c) Does not arise.

Siphoning off foreign exchange under OGL scheme

411. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of reports that the provisions of OGL Scheme have been exploited to siphon off foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, what is the estimated loss of foreign exchange and also the details of companies responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a)

and (b) It is not possible to estimate loss of foreign exchange by misuse of the facility of importing goods under OGL Scheme. The details of cases detected during the year 1989 are, however, being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.