

Government of Orissa have advised shifting of the Project to another suitable site outside Orissa.

(c) An expenditure of Rs 26.55 crores has been incurred on the Project till October, 1989.

Steps to check rise in prices of essential commodities

*77 SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the price situation in the country; if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to check rise in prices of essential commodities;

(b) whether any directives have been issued to the various Ministries and Departments concerned; if so, in what form and whether they are time-bound; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating a package of measures, including fiscal measures, to control price escalation if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) The Government accords the highest priority to the control of inflation. A Cabinet Committee on Prices has been appointed to review the price situation and take necessary steps in this direction. The measures to control price rise include removing imbalances in demand and supply of essential commodities, mopping up excess liquidity in the economy and vigorous enforcement of existing laws against hoarding and profiteering. The appointment of the Committee will ensure timely and quick action by the concerned agencies of the Government.

Settlement of Canvay Dispute

*78 SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state what action Government propose to take on the proposal submitted by the late Chief Minister, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, to refer the long standing Can-

very dispute on Tribunal in order to settle it amicably and to rehabilitate the farmers/peasants of Tanjore region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANOBHAI KOTADIA): The matter is under consideration.

Ban on the use of colours in food and confectionary items

*79. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have banned the use of colours in food and confectionary items;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Confederation of Indian Food and Trade Industry have requested Government to review the matter; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV):

(a) and (b) Out of 11 permitted synthetic food colours in specific food items under the provisions of prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has decided to ban 3 synthetic colours, namely (1) Amaranth, (2) Fast Red E and (3) Green S. Maximum limit of synthetic colours to be used in specific food items is also proposed to be reduced from the existing limit of 200 mg/kg. to 100 mg/kg. Use of synthetic colours in food articles generally consumed by children is also recommended to be discontinued. Accordingly, a draft notification has been issued vide G.S.R. 851 (E) dated 26th September, 1989 for inviting comments and enclosed herewith as statement. (See below).

(c) and (d) The Confederation of Indian Food Trade and Industry have sent their comments to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for reviewing the matter and the same will be taken into consideration before finalising the notification.

Statement

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(Department of Health)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 26th September, 1989.

G.S.R. 857 (E).—The following draft of certain rules further to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 which the Central Government proposes to make, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (i) of section 23 of the Preventive of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 (37 of 1954) and after consultation with the Central Committee for Food Standards, is hereby published as required by sub-section (i) of section 23 of the said Act for the information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and notice

is hereby given that the said draft rules will be taken into consideration on or after the expiry of a period of sixty days from the date of which this notification is published are made available to the public.

Any objections or suggestions which may be received from any person with respect to the said rules before the expiry of the period so specified, will be considered by the Central Government.

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA

DRAFT RULES

1. (1) These rules may be called Prevention of Food Adulteration (Amendment) Rules, 1989

(2) They shall come into force after one year from the date of their final publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 herein-after referred to as said, rules,—

(a) In rule 30, for the existing Table, the following Table shall be substituted, namely:—

Colour	Common name	Colour Index (1956)	Chemical class
1. Red	Ponceau 4R	16255	Azo
	Carmoisine	14728	Azo
	Erythrosine	45430	Xanthene
2. Yellow	Tartrazine	19140	Pyrazolone
	Sunset Yellow FCF	15985	Azo
3. Blue	Indigo Carmine	73015	Indigoid
	Brilliant Blue FCF	42090	Triarylmethane
4. Green	Fast Green FCF	42053	Triarylmethane

(b) in rule 29, of the said rules, in clause (c), the word 'confectionery' shall be omitted.

(c) in rule 30 of the said rules, for the figures and words "Q. 2 grams per kilogram", the following figures and words shall be substituted, namely:—

"Q 1 gram per kilogram." 4. In Appendix B' of the said rules.—

(1) in items A. 25.01, A.25.02 and A. 25.02.01, the words "permitted colour" wherever occurring shall be omitted.

[No. F. 15014/487-PH(F&N)]

Sd/-

SMT. VINEETA RAI,
Jt. Secy.

Loans taken by SBI New York under Bank Advances Scheme

*80. SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that State Bank of India, New York branch has taken short term loans amounting to 3 billion dollars under 'Bank Advances Scheme, to pay for imports into India; and

(b) if so, on what grounds SBI was allowed to raise such a large amount and whether it had the concurrence of Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):—(a) and (b) As a part of the trading operations of major canalising agencies, the State Bank of India has been authorised to extend Bankers' Acceptance Facility of up to US \$ 2.91 billion.

Special duty allowance to Government employees of North Eastern Region

294 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have since sanctioned Special Duty

Allowance to the Central Government employees of North Eastern Region in certain departments who have no transfer liability; and

(b) if so, whether the orders relating to Special Duty Allowance are being made applicable to all the Central Government employees regardless of transfer liability; if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Government orders provide for grant of Special (Duty) Allowance to Central Government civilian employees who have All India Transfer liability on their posting to North East Region. However, in a very few exceptional cases the condition of All India Transfer liability was relaxed in Public interest.

Settlement of claims of Refugees migrated to India from Bangladesh

295. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the hardships of those refugees who had migrated to India in the wake of Bangladesh freedom struggle, leaving their properties in erstwhile East Pakistan, due to non-settlement of their claims in full; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Ministry of Commerce only administers an *Ex-Gratia* Scheme, which permits relief to the extent of 25 per cent of the verified value of the claims of Indian nationals/companies who lost their properties as a result of Indo-Pak conflicts of 1965 and 1971. There is no provision for payment beyond 25 per cent of the verified value of the under the Scheme.