

cotton year. These measures have improved the availability of cotton and also led to decline in the cotton prices.

Release of Export quota of Cotton Bales

3886. SHRI RAJANI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been urged to release an export quota of bales of cotton; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the current cotton year 1987-88 exports of staple cotton have not been permitted in view of lower production and uptrend in cotton prices. The question of export of cotton during the 1988-89 cotton year will depend on the crop size, estimated domestic requirement and prices in the domestic and international markets in that year.

Counter Trade with Indonesia

3887. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :

SHRIMATI VEENA BERMA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Indonesia have agreed to explore possibilities of entering into counter-trade or such other mutually beneficial arrangement for import of bulk items which could be linked to exports to Indonesia; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b) In the last senior officials level meeting on trade and economic relations between India and Indonesia held in New Delhi from 3-5 August, 1988, it was noted that

in view of the possibilities of India purchasing bulk items like Palm oil, rubber, tin etc., the State Trading Corporation of India and organisations to be identified by the Indonesian side, would meet and explore the possibilities of entering into counter trade or other mutually beneficial arrangements for import of these bulk items linked to exports to Indonesia.

Arrangement made by STC for Packing Imported Palmolin

3888. SHRI M. A. BABY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what arrangement State Trading Corporation (STC) are having for packing of imported 'Palmolin' edible oil with private parties along with their names and addresses, quantity offered to be packed, monthly, annually, terms, packing and other charges, transportation local for destination, period of agreement and since when; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Chairman of the STC has recently taken a policy decision to encourage for setting up of new ancillary small scale units. Zonewise/Regionwise/Statewise for packing of Palmolin edible oil to make easy availability at more reasonable price particularly to weaker sections of the society even to remote places and the new 20-Point Economic Programme of the Prime Minister to generate more employment and to end poverty speedily, regionwise besides packing assignment of STC should not remain the monopoly of influensive Packing unit; if so, what are the complete details of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dispute between the General Insurance Corporation and Gujarat State Co-operative Bank over crop Insurance

3889. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH :

SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN :

SHRI ASHIS SEN:

SHRI MOTURU HANUMAN:

1HA RAO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the points of dispute between the General Insurance Corporation and Gujarat State Co-operative Bank over crop insurance; and

(b) at what stage the dispute is to testing now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Drug Trafficking

3890. SHRI KAPIL VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.N. Fund for Drug Abuse Control will extend assistance to India for drug abuse control and for prevention of illicit trafficking; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether agreements have been signed in this connection between U.N.D.F.A.C. and the Government of India; if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) has committed financial assistance to the tune of US \$ 20 million, to be spent over a period of 5 years from 1988; for drug abuse and prevention as also control measures like strengthening of machinery for control over drug trafficking, strengthening of narcotics testing laboratories and community based treatment social reintegration of drug addicts. To this effect, an agreement has been signed between the Government of

India and the Fund authorities. Various allocations have been tentatively agreed upto as follows :

US \$ (in millions)

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. Strengthening of control over transit traffic | 7.50 |
| 2. Modernisation and strengthening of forensic laboratories | 0.80 |
| 3. Strengthening of control over licit opium production | 3.50 |
| 4. Drug dependence, prevention and treatment | 5.35 |
| 5. Rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug addicts | 2.50 |
| 6. Prevention of drug abuse through education and information | 0.35 |

Area under forests in Gujarat

3891. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the area under forests, destroyed in Gujarat during the last three years; and

(b) what is the area reclaimed under afforestation programme during the above period, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI):

(a) Details of the area under forests diverted for non-forest use in Gujarat during the last three years are as under :—

1985	...	...	...	76.71 ha
1986	...	...	...	121.50 ha
1987	...	...	...	4758.76 ha
Total :				4056.97 ha