

ed, between 2 to 7 per cent of sugar is being wasted in the form of bagasse which is used as fuel, in the sugar mills. May I know from the hon. Minister whether they have any proposals to improve the productivity so that the sugar which is being wasted can be utilised? In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering the proposal given by the sugar manufacturers' association in regard to rationalisation of molasses levy 40-60 per cent.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Regarding wastage of material in the making of sugar, obviously modernization schemes are meant for that. That is one of the main objectives. I have received the memorandum. I was present in one of the functions of the Indian sugar mills association. They made a number of points. If the hon. Member's suggestion is that we should change the Levy Ratio, I may inform him that we did it up to 50:50 earlier but now, for the time being, we do not propose to change the ratio, we do not consider it proper.

About molasses, there was some change in its price. Ministry of Industry deals with this.

WELCOME TO NEPALESE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have an announcement to make.

We have with us this morning, seated in the Special Box, Members of the Nepalese Parliamentary Delegation, currently on a visit to our country, under the distinguished leadership of his Excellency Mr. Nava Raj Subedi, Chairman of the Rashtriya Panchayat of Nepal. The other Members of the Delegation are:

1. Mr. Bisheswer Yadav.
2. Mr. Chandra Dev Chaudhary.

3. Mr. Chakra Bahadur Shahi.
4. Mr. Champak Sunuwar.
5. Mr. Dirga Raj Prasai.
6. Mr. Deepak Bohara.
7. Mr. Indra Bahadur Khatri.
8. Mrs. Indira Atreya.
9. Mr. Kul Raj Sharma.
10. Mr. Lekh Nath Adhikary.
11. Mr. Lal Bahadur Khadka.
12. Mr. Parashu Ram Khapung.
13. Mr. Prakash Chandra Lohani.
14. Mr. Yagya Bahadur Budhathoki.

all members of the Rashtriya Panchayat.

On behalf of the Members of the House and on my own behalf, I take pleasure in extending a very hearty welcome to the Leader and other Members of the Delegation and wish our distinguished guests a very enjoyable and fruitful stay in our country. We hope that during their stay here they would be able to see and learn more about our parliamentary system, our country and our people. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Members of the Rashtriya Panchayat and the friendly people of Nepal.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS— contd.

SHRI VEERSHETTY MOGLAPPA KUSHNOOR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, according to the new guidelines for production capacity, the capacity should be 2000 tonnes per day, but there are a large number of units whose capacity ranges between 300 and 1250 tonnes per day. Is there any information with the Government as to how many of them are below the targeted production capacity and whether the Government has issued any instructions to them to see that they modernised their units to become more viable?