

..Export of agricultural products.

279. SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the volume and value of exports of agricultural products during the last two years, \ wise and what is the estimated export thereof during the current financial year;

(b) what are the names of the different items of farm produce exported during the above years and to which countries; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to increase exports of farm products?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to provisional figures the export of principal agricultural products excluding textiles during 1983-84 and 1984-85 were worth Rs. 2283 crores and Rs. 2355 crores respectively.

(b) The major items of export are. Tea, Coffee, Tobacco, Basmati rice, Spices, Cashew, Castor oil and processed Food. Agricultural products of India are in demand in different markets abroad which include to this, USSR, Japan the Gulf countries, Europe and USA.

(c) The measures for increasing export of agricultural products include identification of new markets, and their development, strengthening of institutional arrangements and grant of fiscal and other incentives. The States have been requested to organise specially for export.

Directive issued by jute commissioner of India to private jute mills in the matter of purchase of raw jute

280. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jute C Commissioner of India exercising his statutory powers had issued directives in September, 1985 urging private mills to step up purchase of raw jute in such a manner as to have six weeks requirement of raw jute necessary to carry on production in respective mills by the end of September, 1985 and ten weeks requirement by the end of October, 1985;

(b) if so, whether this directive has been aimed out by the private jute mills:

(c) if not, which are the jute mills which have violated the directives; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take against those mills which have violated the directive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A statement is attached.

Statement

Out of 54 jute mills to whom this Order was served, the position of physical stock level (inclusive of in-transit quantity) built up by them as on 31-10-1985 is as under:—

Raw Jute stocks	No. of Mills
(i) Ten weeks' and above	34
(ii) Six Weeks' and above but below ten weeks,	7
(iii) Five Weeks' and above but below six weeks,	3
(iv) Below five weeks,	7
(v) Reports not received,	3
TOTAL :	54