

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री खुरशीद आलम खाँ) : (क) तथा
 (ख) चालू वर्ष के दौरान भारतीय
 पटसन निगम ने 5-2-1981 तक कच्चे
 पटसन की 9.91 लाख गांठें खरीदी हैं
 जबकि विगत वर्ष के दौरान 8.68
 लाख गांठें खरीदी गई थीं। अगले वर्ष
 के लिए लक्ष्य को अन्तिम रूप दिया जा
 रहा है।

निगम अगले वर्ष के लिए एक कार्य
 योजना तैयार कर रही है जिससे बाजारों
 का क्षेत्र बढ़ेगा, गोदाम क्षमता में वृद्धि
 होगी, खरीद तथा बिक्री कार्यचालन के
 दौरान पटसन के संचलन में तेजी आएगी
 और उपजकर्ताओं से खरीदारी बढ़ाने
 का प्रयास किया जाएगा।

Composition of the third level airlines

74. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the
 Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL
 AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details about the composition,
 structure and financial arrangements of the
 third level airlines; and

(b) what are the places where it will
 operate and what are the various fares to be
 charged?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND
 CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA):
 (a) A Company called "Vayudoot Private
 Limited" has been set up for operating third
 level air services initially in the North-Eastern
 Region. The Company has been registered
 under the Companies Act as a joint venture of
 Air India and Indian Airlines with equal
 equity participation for which the budgetary
 support has to come from Government. The
 Board of Directors of the Company are
 appointed by Air India and Indian Airlines
 with the approval of the Government. So are
 the Chairman and the General Manager of the
 Company. The air services are being
 operated by F-27

1717 RS—5.

aircraft taken on lease from Indian Airlines.

(b) The Vayudoot services are presently
 being operated to the sta-ments as per details
 below:—

These fares are 30 per cent cheaper than

Sector	Fare
	Rs.
Gauhati/Barapani . . .	35
Kamalpur/Agartala . . .	37
Gauhati/Rupsi . . .	87
Chabua/Tezu . . .	61
Gauhati/Kamalpur . . .	111
Gauhati/Kailashahar . . .	103

Indian Airlines fares in area outside the
 North-Eastern region.

Supply of Refined Groundnut Oil

75. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the
 Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to
 state:

(a) what is the latest position about the
 supply of refined groundnut oil;

(b) whether Government are
 taking any steps to increase its production;
 and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
 MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
 BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY): (a) to (c) No
 separate statistics of production of refined
 groundnut oil are being maintained by
 Government. The production of groundnut oil
 of both raw and refined has in recent years
 been of the order of about 14 lakh tonnes (the
 figure computed on the basis of groundnut
 production).

There is sufficient refining capacity in the
 country to produce refined

groundnut oil- However, a significant increase in its production would also require increase in production of groundnut in the country.

The various measures that Government are taking to increase the production of groundnut include the following:—

(1) Increase in acreage/under cultivation;

(2) Raising the productivity levels, through a package of practices and incentives;

(3) Providing support price.

Raising of Loan Ceiling- by State Finance Corporations

76. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Finance Corporations have been authorised to raise the limit of their loan amount from the present limit of Rs. 30 lakhs to 50 lakhs in view of the Government having raised the amount of plant and machinery for small scale units from Rs. 10 to 20 lakhs; and

(b) if not, by when Government propose to direct the Reserve Bank and the Industrial Development Bank of India to take immediate steps in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of section 26(1) of the State Financial Corporations Act, 1951, the State Financial Corporations are at present authorised to render financial assistance to an industrial concerns up to Rs. 30 lakhs in the case of companies set-up under the Companies Act and cooperative societies registered under the Cooperative Societies Act and up to Rs. 1.5 lakhs in any other case. In the State Financial Corporations conference held in October, 1980, among other things, the question of raising the present limits of accommodation was also considered. Accordingly the Industrial Development Bank of India has

forwarded to the Government early this month certain proposals relating to amendments to the State Financial Corporations Act, 1951 which *inter-alia* include raising the limits from Rs. 30 lakhs to Rs. 60 lakhs and Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 30 lakhs. These will be processed by the Government in due course.

Consumer Price Index

77. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI; SHRI SHRIDHAR WASTJDEO DHABE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the rise in the consumer price index in the last six months in respect of essential commodities; and

(b) the steps being taken to prevent inflation and rise in prices or to neutralise its effect on fixed income groups like salaried employees?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) The All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (1960=100) shows an increase of 5.7 per cent in the last six months that is between June and December 1980 (the latest available) this compares with the increase of 8.4 per cent in the same period of 1979.

(b) A number of anti-inflationary measures have already been taken including removal of infrastructure bottlenecks and increasing production; (ii) strengthening of the public distribution system; (iii) augmenting the domestic availabilities through imports; (iv) curbing the anti-social activities such as hoarding and black-marketing and (v) controlling undue expansion in money supply and credit.

As regards neutralisation of the impact of the rise in prices on salaried employees, it is done by the existing system of payment of dearness allowance related to the All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (1960=100) in the