

upto such monetary limits as may be prescribed by Government will be borne by the Trade Fair Authority of India and excess over the limit, if any, by Shri Yunus.

(vi) Shri Yunus is authorised to incur expenditure on entertainment upto Rs. 750 per month subject to certification of actual expenditure incurred in case of entertainment at residence and production of vouchers in respect of expenditure on entertainment incurred outside his residence, i.e., at hotels, restaurants, clubs etc.

### Meeting of Jute Producing countries

2353. SHRI SYED SHAHABUD-DIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of jute producing countries was held at Dacca in September, 1980;

(b) if so, what are the names of participating countries;

(c) what are the main decisions taken thereat;

(d) whether Bangladesh's proposal for setting up an Organisation of Jute Exporting Countries was discussed and any decision taken;

(e) what is the share of various jute exporting countries of the World in the trade in jute and jute products for the latest year available?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bangladesh, Brazil, Burma, India, Nepal and Thailand.

(c) and (d) It was agreed that periodic consultations and close co-operation among jute producing countries were necessary and useful in order to discuss the short and long term problems, particularly the current urgent international market problems, faced by raw jute and jute products and to formulate action-

oriented recommendations for adoption by the individual jute producing countries concerned. It was decided that the detailed procedures of such cooperation among producers be further considered by the individual Governments concerned, and the next consultations among the producing countries should consider possible areas of cooperation which might be taken up in the framework of the co-operative procedures to be established.

(e) Procedures of cooperation among jute producing countries are to be discussed further in a meeting called by ESCAP at Dacca from December 15 to 18, 1980.

*Jute Fibre and Goods Net Exporters at Country Level (in fibre equivalent 000MT—Year 1978.*

Brazil	6.0
Bangladesh	855.1
India	356.9
Nepal	49.3
Burma	18.1
Thailand	206.4
World	1491.8

### Export of Foodgrains to the USSR

2354. SHRI SYED SHAHABUD-DIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the quantity of rice and other foodgrains likely to be exported to the USSR during 1980-81?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): Under an agreement between the Government of India and Government of U.S.S.R., India is to export 5 lakh tonnes of rice to U.S.R.R. upto 30th June, 1981.

### Import of Edible Oil

2355. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the imported edible oils have not the traditional odour and tests as the indigenous edible oils and these are, therefore, not generally accepted by the consumers; and

(b) whether Government are aware that most of the imported edible oils are being used in blending and mixing with indigenous edible oils by traders and agencies who are earning huge profits from the sale of the blended oils by marketing them under the level of indigenous edible oils?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY):

(a) and (b) Imported edible oils have been finding increasing greater acceptance by the consumers in the country. This is shown by the fact that as against only about 93,000 tonnes of imported oils lifted by the various State Governments for public distribution during the Oil-Year 1978-79, over 3.5 lakh tonnes of these oils were lifted by them during the Oil-Year 1979-80 (which ended on the 31st October, 1980).

It would not be correct to say that most edible oils, imported in the country, go for illegal blending. Whenever any specific instances of such blending comes to the notice of Government, appropriate action is taken.

#### **Vigilance over public distribution system**

2356. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state whether Government are proposing to take help, on voluntary basis, from the teachers of the primary and secondary schools to keep vigilance over the working of the public distribution system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY):  
No, Sir.

#### **Internal Air Routes to Private Enterprises**

2357. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to entrust some internal air routes to private enterprises;

(b) if so, whether Government have insisted on the parties not to use Dakotas on these internal routes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Government Hotels running into losses**

2358. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private hoteliers are earning profits while the Central Government run hotels are incurring losses;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to run these hotels on the management pattern of private hoteliers with suitable modifications;

(c) whether it is also a fact that quality control measures with regard to eatables and food preparations are not generally adhered to in the Government hotels;

(d) whether it is also a fact that pilferage of material by the hotel management and staff is the main reason for losses; and

(e) if so, what remedial measures are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P.