

Commodities	Index Numbers	
	August, 1980	October, 1980
Milk	181.6	185.7
Eggs.	155.9	150.9
Fish	264.0	292.2
Meat	301.2	297.1
Chillies	106.7	109.3
Turmeric	86.0	91.1
Tea	220.8	215.0
Coffee	117.6	129.2
Coal	335.5	335.5
Coke	278.7	278.7
Kerosene	272.8	272.8
Diesel oil (High speed)	285.7	285.7
Petrol	434.0	434.6
Biscuits	188.5	196.4
Bread	171.4	186.3
Sugar	248.5	251.0
Khandsari	399.1	473.4
Gur	522.8	565.9
Vanaspatti	206.8	203.5
Groundnut oil	221.8	210.4
Mustard oil	251.5	264.7
Coconut oil	224.2	238.2
Gingelly oil	255.8	220.6
Kardi oil	23.8	221.1
Cottonseed oil	210.2	190.2
Cotton cloth (Mills)	205.1	209.0
Khadi cloth	179.2	179.2
Handloom & Powerloom cloth	199.1	200.6
Paper	231.1	232.5
Footwear	253.7	253.7
Tyres	252.1	259.0

Commodities	Index Numbers	
	August, 1980	October, 1980
Tubes	268.4	272.2
Rubber & Plastic shoes	158.4	158.4
Caustic soda	381.0	376.4
Soda ash	348.8	276.0
Soap	233.0	227.6
Drugs & Medicines	135.2	135.2
Synthetic Detergents	274.2	274.2
Tooth powder	222.2	222.2
Tooth paste	157.0	152.6
Matches	133.6	133.6
Cement	233.0	231.7
Dry cells	188.6	188.6
Electric lamps	199.5	203.2
Razor blades	119.9	119.9
Salt	220.0	224.1
Bidi	196.4	197.3
Cigaretts	240.5	237.8

Monetary assistance to the consumer co-operatives in the rural areas

226. SHRI KRISHNA NAND JOSHI:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
SAHU:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to step up the monetary assistance to the consumer co-operatives in the rural areas; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES
(SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHAN-
TY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Cooperative Development Corporation has a

scheme which came into operation in January, 1976, this envisages development of a rural consumer programme on projects lines, each project consisting of 10—15 village societies, linked up for the purpose of supply with primary marketing society or with wholesale consumer store or with the branch of a State Cooperative Marketing/Consumer Federation, depending upon the local situation.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided by the NCDC, on the following lines to secondary lead and village societies in the project through the State Government:—

- (i) Margin money assistance upto Rs. 50,000 to Secondary level society to raise bank finance.
- (ii) In case of need, transport assistance upto Rs. 60,000 in the shape of loan-cum-subsidy.
- (iii) Upto Rs. 12,000 for furnishing the retail outlet of lead society.
- (iv) Upto Rs. 5,000 to a village society for furnishing its retail outlet.
- (v) Margin money assistance @ Rs. 5,000 for a small size village society and Rs. 10,000 for a large size society, for handling consumer business.

Since the inception of the scheme, the Corporation has sanctioned projects involving an assistance of Rs. 2576 lakhs upto 31st March, 1980 in 20 States of which Rs. 800/- lakhs was provided during 1979-80.

In order to further boost up the rural consumer programme a provision of Rs. 900 lakhs has been made during the current financial year. This includes Rs. 475 lakhs to the village societies as margin money assistance under the Central Sector Scheme.

Supply of Iron Ore to Iran from Kudremukh Iron Ore Project

227. SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Iranian Government have declined to honour the agreement entered into with the Government of Iran during late Shah's regime for the supply of iron-ore from Kudremukh Iron Ore Project;

(b) if so, to what extent the iron-ore has been supplied to Iran as against the contracted supplies;

(c) what are the reasons for declining the supplies of the remaining quantity of iron-ore by the present Iranian Government; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to settle the issue?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The present Government in Iran have indicated that some of the provisions of the agreements concluded with the previous Government in respect of the Kudremukh Iron Ore concentrate are unacceptable to them. They apparently feel that these provisions are not in their national interest. Discussions have been held on two occasions in the past with the Iranian Government and the National Iranian Steel Company (the purchaser), with a view to resolving the differences. A high-level Indian delegation was scheduled to visit Iran early in October, 1980. Before this could materialise, the present hostilities between Iran and Iraq broke out.

2. According to the existing contract supplies of iron ore concentrate to Iran should have commenced by the end of August 1980. Though the Project company is ready to supply, no shipments have taken place so far as Iran has indicated that she would not be in a position to accept the supplies for about two years. Apart