

hotels in the private sector. The Tourist Offices in India and abroad have been promoting tourism to these Islands.

A plan to develop tourist facilities in these Islands will be considered keeping in view the availability of resources and other priorities.

West Bengal's Request for Rapeseed Oil

1300. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state whether the West Bengal Government have requested the Central Government to supply rapeseed oil (crude) at a reduced price instead of at the present price of Rs. 4300.00 per metric ton as has been done in respect of issue price of other imported oils used by the vanaspati manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): The raw rapeseed oil is being issued to State Government through State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. at Rs. 5300/- per tonne. The State Government has been asked to distribute the oil after getting it refined at a price not exceeding Rs. 7.50 per kg. through licensed fair price shops.

The Government of West Bengal had recently requested for reduction in the issue price of crude rapeseed oil. As the issue price of Rs. 5300/- per tonne is already heavily subsidized, the State Government has been informed that further subsidising the sale of rapeseed oil was not possible. The issue price of imported oils viz. Soya-bean oil and palm oil to the vanaspati industry now are Rs. 5950/- and Rs. 5500/- per tonne respectively.

Dilution of foreign equity by the Hindustan Milk Food manufacturers Limited

1301. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India issued a notice to the Hindustan Milkfood Manufacturers Ltd., to reduce its foreign equity to 40 per cent under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973;

(b) if so, whether the Company has since complied with the directive of the Reserve Bank; and

(c) if not, what action Government propose to take against the Company?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The company has submitted necessary application to the Controller of Capital Issue seeking to comply with the directive issued by the Reserve Bank of India under Section 29.

(c) Does not arise.

Fraud in the import of uncut diamonds

1302. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. B. Arunkumar and Company, Bombay, had filed a case in the Delhi High Court in connection with the alleged fraud in the import of uncut diamonds through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation; if so, what is the present position of the case;

(b) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation had conducted any investigation into the case; and

(c) if so; what is the date on which the Central Bureau of Investigation was asked to investigate into the