

for controlling and regulating the export trade and prevention of smuggling of antiquities and no antiquity is being permitted to be exported except in permissible cases, on merits, for purposes of exchange, exhibition or State gifts.

A convention of the "Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property" was adopted by the General Conference of the UNESCO at its 16th Session held in Paris (October-November 1970).

The main provisions of the Convention are directed towards effective preservation of cultural property both nationally and internationally among States working in close co-operation. Government of India is considering ratification of the convention so as to be able to recover its cultural property that may be found in other country and is a party to this convention.

The ICPO Interpol publishes notices in respect of stolen property together with photographs and short description under the title "The most wanted works of Art". These are also sent to different countries for publication in art journals for wider circulation. The Government of India also publish photographs of important stolen objects in art journals so as to warn all museums, art galleries and to elicit information of their whereabouts.

FRUIT PRODUCT ORDER

729. SHRI O. P. TYAGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for extending the Fruit Product Order to soft drinks; and

(b) the reasons for not extending this order to sweets, chocolates and biscuits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The Fruit Products Order is applicable to aerated as well as non-aerated products containing fruit juices and fruit pulp and also to certain categories of beverages and other products which do not contain fruit juices, such as synthetic syrups, *sharbats* and vinegar and its scope has been extended to aerated waters containing no fruit juice, to ensure that—

(i) the manufacture of these products is done under hygienic conditions;

(ii) these drinks are manufactured in conformity with prescribed standards of quality and composition; and ;

(iii) the labelling requirements as specified in the Order are complied with.

(b) These products are outside the scope of the Fruit Products Order.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS IN THE COUNTRY

*730. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of physically handicapped persons in the country has been increasing substantially;

(b) whether any assessment has been made by Government about the number of such persons in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated by Government for the rehabilitation of such persons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) No dependable data is available. On account of increase in the population and industrialisation, the number of handicapped persons is, however, believed to have increased.

(d) The Government of India have initiated several programmes for the education and rehabilitation of the handicapped. These include establishment of national centres for major types of handicapped persons, a substantial scholarship programme and a special arrangement for employment.

DEMAND FOR RISE IN THE PRICE OF SUGARCANE

731. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cane-growers have demanded a rise in the price of sugarcane;

(b) whether Government have agreed to increase the price; and

(c) if so, the price agreed upon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Government of India fix only the statutory minimum price for sugarcane, which is taken into account in computing the cost of levy sugar. The actual price to be paid for cane is negotiated and settled between the cane-growers and the factories. During 1972-73, most of the factories are known to be paying much higher prices than the notified price for the cane.

BELDANGA AND AHMEDPUR SUGAR MILLS

732. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to undertake feasible industrial enterprises on the premises of the closed Sugar Mills at

(i) Beldanga in Murshidabad; and

(ii) Ahmedpur in Burdwan of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Government of West Bengal have informed the Central Government recently that they have decided in principle to reopen the two closed sugar mills in the State viz. (i) the National Sugar Mills at Ahmedpur, District Birbhum and (ii) Radhakrishna Sugar Mills at Beldanga, District Murshidabad, and that proposals in this regard are under their examination.

CLOSURE OF BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

733. DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether disturbances have again broken out in the Banaras Hindu University campus;

(b) whether some students and teachers were physically assaulted and the Vice-Chancellor gheraoed and his car damaged;

(c) whether as a result of these disturbances, the University has been closed down;

(d) whether it is a fact that Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh (RSS) is behind these disturbances;

(e) if so, what steps have been taken to weed out such elements from the campus and restore normalcy in the University;

(f) whether any report in this behalf has also been received from the Vice-Chancellor of the University; and

(g) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and whether a copy thereof would be laid on the Table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.