

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/ विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (SHRI A.C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Japan has not purchased any salt from India since July, 1970. From 1960 to 1969 Japan had been purchasing salt from India at the rate of about 3 lakh tonnes per year. Sometime ago the Japanese buyers desired STC to reduce its F.O.B. price by one U.S. dollar per metric tonne. As this would have made exports uneconomic, the STC could not agree to the reduction. Since July, 1970 Japan has been purchasing most of her salt requirements from other countries who have offered freight and price advantage?.

The value of exports of salt during 1970-71 was Rs. 96.47 lakhs (provisional figures) as compared to Rs. 164.91 lakhs during the previous year. Government are taking remedial measures to arrest the decline in salt exports. To compensate for the loss of the Japanese market, the STC which is the canalised agency for the export of salt has diversified the export of salt to other countries such as Tanzania, South Korea, Taiwan and Philippines. The prices paid by these countries for our salt are higher than the prices offered by Japan. Efforts are also continuously being made by the STC to regain our share in the Japanese market and to improve the loading rate of salt at selected ports in India.

**PURCHASE OF COTTON THROUGH GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT AGENCY**

336. SHRI N. G. GORAY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/ विदेश व्यापार मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the suggestions made by the Government of Maharashtra to the Central Government for the purchase of cotton through Government procurement

agency was turned down by the Central Government ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that so long as the trade is in the private hands, there is no likelihood of the cotton producers getting fair prices and therefore not receiving the necessary encouragement for growing more cotton ; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that this policy of the Central Government is at variance with its declared policy of encouraging the agriculturists ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/ विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government announces Support prices of various types of cotton as recommended by the Agricultural Price Commission in the beginning of every cotton season. During the last two years the market ruling prices have been much higher than Support prices. The Government of Maharashtra intend to introduce a bill on Procurement, Processing and Marketing of cotton so as to assure the growers of fair prices.

**PAVEMENT DWELLERS IN BIG CITIES**

\*400. SHRI M.V. BHADRAM :

DR. Z. A. AHMAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/ गृह विभाग be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pavement dwellers in the metropolitan cities of Bombay, Delhi Calcutta and Madras as revealed by the 1971 census ; and

(b) how do these figures compare with those of 1961 census ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/ गृह विभाग में उप-मंत्री (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN):

(a) The figures of the houseless population were compiled on a provisional basis only for Delhi city and the Number is 16,838. The corresponding figures for the other

tTransferred from the 28th May, 1971.

tTransferred from the 31st May, 1971.

cities will be available only after the detailed sorting of the census Schedules is completed by about November, 1971.

(b) At the 1961 Census 6,296 persons were counted as houseless in the city of Delhi.

#### MID-TERM POLL FOR MYSORE ASSEMBLY

1404. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/गृह मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for holding the mid-term poll in the State of Mysore ; and

(b) if so, the time by when the said elections are likely to be conducted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/राज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) The Election Commission is undertaking an intensive revision of the electoral rolls in several States including Mysore. After the completion of the revision steps will be taken to hold fresh elections to the Legislative Assembly of Mysore.

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES

1438. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR : SHRI M. K. MOHTA : SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL :

Will the Minister of PLANNING/योजना मंत्रालय be pleased to state whether Government have finalised the 1971-72 annual plan keeping in view the requests made by the various State Governments regarding more financial assistance to the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING/योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) :

Yes, Sir. Annual Plans 1971-72 have been finalised except for Tamil Nadu; and the requests made by various State Governments regarding higher Central assistance were taken into consideration before finalising the plans.

-(■) Transferred from the 31st May, 1971. ft  
Transferred from the 1st June, 1971. ♦ Transferred  
from the 4th June, 1971.

#### COMPENSATION TO PERSONS WHOSE PROPERTY WAS SEIZED DURING INDO-PAK CONFLICT

\*607. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision with regard to the payment of compensation to the owners of the properties seized by Pakistan during 1965 conflict ;

(b) if so, details thereof ; and

(c) the number of the persons who have been paid compensation so far and the amount of compensation paid ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India have decided that *ad-hoc* relief in the form of *ex-gratia* grants from the Consolidated Fund of India @ 25% of the value of the verified claims, restricted to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs in each case, may be made to all such India national and Indian Companies whose assets have been seized by Pakistan during Indo-Pak conflict, against a bond to be executed by the recipients. It has also been decided that where 25% of the value of the verified claims exceed the aforesaid limit, cases may be considered on merits. These claims are under verification,

12 NOON

#### CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

#### REPORTED DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ISSUE INDUSTRIAL LICENCES FOR THE SETTING UP OF 'MLNL' STEEL PLANTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR »IN VIOLATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL POLICY RESOLUTION'

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, with your permission I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Steel and Mines