

(iv) Releases of non-levy sugar were increased from 90,000 tonnes in May, 1977 to 1.20 lakhs tonnes each in June and July, 1977 and similar releases will also be made for August, 1977;

(v) The cut in the allotment of cement to States has been reduced from 18 per cent in April-June, 1977, quarter to 15 per cent in the current quarter (July-September);

(vi) Export of essential items of mass consumption is either banned or is being strictly regulated;

(vii) Arrangements have been made to import adequate quantities of edible oils and cotton to meet the current shortage;

(viii) An assessment of the availability of edible oils and cotton during the next year and the extent of imports required is being made. It has been decided to take action to effect imports accordingly.

(ix) State Governments have been advised to take stringent measures against hoarders and blackmarketeers and other anti-social elements.

Joint ventures in Vietnam .

*47. SHRI BIPINPAL DAS:
SHRI DEVENDRA NATH
DWIVEDI:
SHRI VITHAL GADGIL:
SHRI MULKA GOVINDA
REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are negotiating with the Government of Vietnam for starting joint ventures in a wide range of industrial projects in Vietnam; and

(b) if so, whether Indian private sector will have any participation in such ventures?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-

OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Enquiry against importers of edible oils

*48. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI
KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:
SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:
SHRI SAWAISINGH SISO-
DIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 33 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th June, 1977 and state:

(a) whether the enquiries against some importers of edible oils, against whom there is *prima facie* case, have since been completed; and

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Exchange from Tourists

*49. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM
KHAN:
SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN
SINGH:
SHRI YOGENDRA MAKAWA-
NA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign exchange earned from tourist traffic during 1976-77 was the highest so far;

(b) if so, what was the share of hotels in the public and the private sectors in earning this foreign exchange; and