

(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

(c) what is the amount of foreign exchange sanctioned to hotels in the private and public sectors during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected from the Reserve Bank of India and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The amount of foreign exchange sanctioned to approved hotels in the public and private sectors during 1976-77 was as follows:—

Rs.

(i) Public sector	. 28 82 lakhs
(ii) Private sector	. 103 04 lakhs
Total	. 131 86 lakhs

#### Loans to Companies Holding Shares in Maruti Limited

\*50. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
RAHA:  
SHRI LAKSHMANA  
MAHAPATRO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of companies holding shares in M/s. Maruti Limited have been advanced loans by Government financial institutions and banks in the public sector; and

(b) if so, whether Government will lay on the Table of the House a detailed statement giving the names of the companies, the amount of loans received by each of them, the total amount of loans and interests due from each of them and the basis on which such loans were sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

#### Increase in price of Imported Edible Oils

\*51. SHRI R. D. JAGTAP  
AVERGOANKAR:  
SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently decided to raise the price of imported edible oils; if so, to what extent;

(b) what is the extent to which such a step will increase the import bill with respect to edible oils during the current year; and

(c) what is the extent to which the retail prices of edible oils including vanaspati have been raised as a result thereof and what are the details of the prices of different types of edible oils, so fixed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Consequent on increases in the prices of edible oils purchased by the STC in the international market, the issue price of imported soyabean oil and palm oil to be supplied to the vanaspati industry has been increased for the quarter July-September 1977. For this quarter, it has also been decided to increase the quota of imported oils from 75 per cent to 90 per cent. The increase in respect of 75 per cent quota is Rs. 500 a tonne, and for the remaining 15 per cent quota, the increase is Rs. 2250 a tonne.

(b) The increase in the internal issue prices of imported edible oils to vanaspati industry has no impact on the import bill, as it was the increased import bill which led to recent increases in the issue price.