

farm processing of cocoa beans.

(e) to (g). Government takes care to protect the interest of growers as well as consumers by way of importing bare minimum quantities to bridge the gap between demand and supply, and its release is made at prices which help to control the internal market price at levels remunerative to the growers.

Export of Equipments to Nicaragua

7046. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Nicaragua has expressed its desire to import some equipments from India;

(b) if so, which category of equipment does Nicaragua intend to import from India; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Government of Nicaragua have recently indicated interest in import of equipment and machinery for a Textile plant as well as farm implements and hand-tools.

Export of Additional Items for Canalisation Through Certain Agencies

7047. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently Government have permitted export of some additional items for canalisation through certain agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the names of the agencies as well as the items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND

TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. No new item has been added to the list of items canalised for export in the Export Policy for April 1985—March, 1988 announced on April 12, 1985.

(b) Does not arise.

Operation of Fake Currency Rackets

7048. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have information about fake currency rackets operating in some parts of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the modus operandi of this racket ; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a), (b), (c) and (d). The Economic Offences Wing of the Calcutta Branch of the Central Bureau of Investigation, on 15th April, 1985, arrested on Azizure Rehman at North Bengal State Transport Compound, State Bus Stand, Calcutta and recovered 9 pieces of counterfeit notes of Rs. 100 denomination and 2 metal blocks used for printing counterfeit notes of Rs. 100 denomination. A regular case has been registered in this regard and the investigation is in progress.

Similarly, on 22.4.85, a search party of the U. P. State Police raided a hut in the Locknow City area and recovered four blocks—2 for printing Rs. 100 denomination note, 1 for printing Rs. 10 denomination note and 1 for printing Re 1 denomination note and a knife. Three persons, viz., S/Shri Dhiraj Ram Yadav, Vijay and Kamraj, have been arrested on the spot while the fourth

person, viz, Shri Vanshraj, a resident of Nakhas, Thana Pukhta Sarai, Distt. Jonpur, managed to escape on the appearance of police party. A regular case in this regard has also been registered by the Locknow City Police and a search party led by a senior police officer has been sent to Calcutta in search of the fourth accused.

Restriction on Imports for Processed Foods and Flavouring Essences

7049. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the new Import policy and state :

(a) the reason why the imports are restricted to 10 per cent of F. O. B. value of exports for processed foods ;

(b) the reasons why there is a further restriction of 10 per cent of the import licence value for flavouring essence and ;

(c) the reasons why the exporter cannot utilise 100 per cent of his import entitlement for importing flavouring essences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Under the Import Policy for Registered Exporters, rate of import replenishment is fixed keeping in view the value of the relevant item (s) used in the export product vis-a-vis F. O. B. value of export product.

(b) Further restriction on the import of particular item (s) within overall import entitlement is also imposed keeping in view the criterion of extent of utilisation of the relevant item (s) in the export product.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Decline in Performance of STC

7050. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been a decline in the performance of State Trading Corporation in recent years ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) the measures Government have taken to improve and streamline the Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government continuously monitors the functioning of STC. In order to enable STC to discharge its role as a premier trading organisation, STC has been directed to evolve a procedure for monitoring imports to ensure that these are at internationally competitive prices and are supplied to consumers at lowest possible price. With regard to exports, STC has been asked to take up the challenge in developing new markets and products, as well as to set itself a time frame in which it would penetrate identified thrust markets with carefully chosen commodities.

Licences for Opening of New Branches of Gramin Banks to NABARD

7051. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether consequent upon the transfer of the functions of supervision of the Gramin Banks to the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development, the opening of the branches and issues of licences for them has also been transferred to this bank by delinking from Reserve Bank of India ;

(b) if so, the date with effect from which this has been done ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to transfer from Reserve Bank the function of issuing of licences for opening