

The State Governments have been requested to energise and reactivate the Public Distribution System in their respective territories. Moreover, STC had also undertaken market intervention in the past through commercial sale of edible oils from time to time at certain selected centres with a view to keep the prices in check. The Vanaspati industry is permitted to use as much as 95 per cent of its raw oils input for manufacture of vanaspati, through purchase of imported oils from the STC, so as to lessen the pressure of demand on the indigenous oils and make the latter available in greater quantities for direct consumption. The State Governments have also been told to strictly implement the provisions of Storage Control Order and to take action under law against any person who is found indulging in hoarding, profiteering etc.

#### Gold auctioned by Reserve Bank of India

572. SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH:  
SHRI K. MALLANNA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of gold auctioned by the Reserve Bank of India during the Janata regime;

(b) the names of parties to whom the gold was sold and the quantity of gold sold to each party and the rate at which sold;

(c) whether a Committee under the chairmanship of the Reserve Bank Governor was appointed to look into the whole question of gold auction and suggest further action; and

(d) whether the said Committee has since submitted its report and if so, the salient features of the suggestions and/or recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) In the 14 auctions conducted by the Reserve Bank of

India from 3rd May, 1978 to 23rd October, 1978, a quantity of 12.956 tonnes of gold was sold.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India conducted sales of gold from Government stocks at fortnightly intervals from May to October, 1978 by auction by tender system. Licensed gold dealers, certified goldsmiths in groups of not more than five, cooperative societies of goldsmiths holding valid licence to deal in gold were allowed to bid in the gold auctions.

Out of a total of 18.316 valid bids received in the auctions, 8,577 bids were accepted. Lists containing names and addresses of the successful bidders, quantity of gold sold and the price at which gold was sold were published by the Reserve Bank of India in their Notice Board at the end of each auction. Copies of all these lists have been placed in the Parliament Library for perusal of Hon'ble Members.

(c) and (d). Soon after the suspension of gold auctions in October, 1978 a committee under the Chairmanship of the Governor, Reserve Bank of India was appointed to review the gold policy in all its aspects. The Committee has since submitted its report. The recommendations of the committee will be made known after the Government have examined them.

उत्तर प्रदेश में लोहे के मूल्य में वृद्धि

573. श्री राम लाल राही : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश में लोहे के निर्धारित मूल्य को तलना में इसके मूल्य में भारी वृद्धि हुई है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ तो इसके मूल्य को नियंत्रित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या उपायों की गई हैं ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक उद्योग और इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) तथा (ख). सम्भवतया माननीय सदस्य का संकेत कच्चे लोहे की ओर है। उत्तर प्रदेश में खले बाजार में कच्चे लोहे के प्रवर्तमान मूल्य मध्य उत्पादकों के स्टाकयार्ड मूल्यों से, जो सारे देश में एक समान हैं, प्रायः अधिक बताए जाते हैं। अधिकोश मांग की पूर्ति मुख्य उत्पादकों द्वारा निश्चित मूल्य पर की जाती है।