

about 2 lakh MTs of sugar was concluded in April, 1980, to augment the stock of sugar in the country. A total quantity of 180, 245 MTs has been received in the country.

(c) No proposal to import more sugar is at present under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

Joint Venture in Nigeria for Collection of Raw Nuts

693. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government for setting up a joint venture in Nigeria for collection of raw nuts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) So far no proposal to set up a joint venture in Nigeria for collection of raw nuts has been received by Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Flora

694. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to ban the export of flora from the country, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned during the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Amount of foreign exchange earned during the last 5 years, year-wise was as under:—

EXPORT OF FLORICULTURAL PRODUCTS

YEAR	VALUE (Rs. Lakhs)
1974-75	11.20
1975-76	18.24
1976-77	24.28
1977-78	75.49
1978-79	80.06

Implementation of Wage Agreement in Steel Plants

695. SHRI MOHD. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) how far the last wage agreement in Steel Plants has been implemented;

(b) if the agreement has not been implemented fully, the reasons thereof;

(c) details of implementation of the agreement in various Steel Plants; and

(d) what steps have been taken to remove the various anomalies arising out of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (c). The Memorandum of Agreement has been implemented in all the Steel Plants in respect of minimum wage, revised wage structure, dearness allowance, fixation of pay, payment of allowances, life cover scheme, additional leave benefits, transport subsidy, retirement gratuity, etc.

(b) Some aspects of the agreement viz. Joint Administration of unpaid wages, Steel workers relief and Rehabilitation Trust, abolition of contract