

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Due dates for filing return of income have been prescribed under the Income Tax Act, 1961. Every year a large number of tax payers file their income tax returns just before the due date. In order to be better equipped to deal with the rush during the last few days, camps are organised by the Department in different locations situated away from the Income Tax Office for collection of return forms. The number of such camps, their location, duration, timing etc. vary from region to region and are decided by the concerned Chief Commissioner of Income-tax/Commissioner of Income-tax keeping in view the local requirements.

(b) The camps are equipped to receive a large number of returns within a short duration. They are generally organised in a manner to suit the convene of large number of tax payers. They are manned by adequate manpower and senior officers of the Department are invariably present to supervise their functioning and also the guide the payers in filing their returns. Separate counters for tax senior citizens are provided at certain places. In many places, refunds are also issued across the counter.

(c) to (e) The Department is in favour of holding camps for collection of returns of income wherever necessary. However, the decision to hold such camps, their location, duration and the facilities to be provided therein are made by concerned Chief Commissioner of Income-tax/Commissioner of Income-tax taking into account the requirements in that area and the resources available. Hence the number and location of camps can vary from place to place and year to year.

#### **Export of Processed Pineapples**

4459. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great potential for export of processed pineapples in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme to promote the export of processed pineapples; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (c) The world trade of processed pineapples during 1994 has been of the order of 1.12 Million MTs valued at US\$751 Million (FAO Year Book 1994). The share of Indian export of processed pineapples in the world trade is at present negligible. However, there is potential for increasing our share in exports of this item.

The Government of India has been encouraging exports of processed fruits including processed pineapples through various support measures. Some of the steps taken to enhance production and export of fruits and vegetables including processed fruits included :

- (i) Provision of soft loans for setting up of grading/processing centres, auction platforms, ripening/curing chambers and quality testing equipment;
- (ii) Providing financial assistance to exporters/growers/Cooperative Societies for development of infrastructural facilities such as purchase of specialised transport units, establishment of pre-cooling/cold storage facilities, integrated post-harvest handling systems (pack houses);
- (iii) Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging and strengthening of quality control;
- (iv) Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions;
- (v) Setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various International Airports.

#### **Problems faced by Textile Workers**

4460. SHRI VAIKO :

SHRI A. GANESHA MURTHI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the textile workers union in Coimbatore to go on strike from July 27, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any demands/grievances from the said union;

(c) if so, the details of measures taken or, likely to be taken by the Government to solve the persisting problems of textile workers in Coimbatore; and

(d) whether such measures will be helpful to put down the recession ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) According to the information received the Textile Workers Union have announced one day's token strike on 27th July, 1998. The demands/grievances include reopening the closed Mills, ensuring the employment to workers as well as payment of statutory benefits, action to prevent future closures, payment of wages in time crediting the statutory dues to concerned authorities etc. The State Government's Ministers have called representatives of the management and of union for discussion to sort out the issue. It is hoped that these measures would help in finding a solution to the problems.