

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to discontinue import of sugar in view of sufficient stock of sugar in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) From 1980-81 till 1989-90, sugar was imported on Government account. During 1990-91 to 1993-94, there were no imports of sugar on Government account. With effect from March 1994, sugar import has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL).

(b) With the carry-over stocks of 53.7 lakh tonnes of the season 1997-98 and the estimated sugar production of 150 lakh tonnes during the current season 1998-99, there would be no difficulty in meeting the requirement of sugar of the country.

(c) and (d) In March, 1994 Govt. allowed duty free import of sugar. However, with effect from 28.4.98 till 13.1.99, Government imposed a basic customs' duty of 5% and a countervailing duty of Rs. 850/- per tonne on imported sugar with a view to discouraging imports. With effect from 14.1.99, the import duty has been increased to 20% alongwith continuation of countervailing duty of Rs. 850/- per tonne.

Audit Certificates Relating to Dandkaranya Project (M.P.)

116. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent the annual audit certificate to the Union Government relating to the East Pakistan for 1987-88 to 1989-90 and the Dandkaranya Project for 1985-86 to 1989-90;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the action taken in the above cases so far; and

(d) the time by which the compensation is likely to be sanctioned to the Resettlement Department of the Government of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Annual Audit Certificates in the prescribed proforma relating to the expenditure on displaced persons from former East Pakistan for 1987-88 to 1989-90 and Dandkaranya Project for 1985-86 to 1989-90 have not been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has been reminded to send the Annual Audit Certificates in the prescribed proforma and other

relevant information which is necessary for reimbursement of expenditure.

(d) Reimbursement of expenditure incurred by the State Government will be made on receipt of the audit certificates in the prescribed proforma.

Illegal Migrants

117. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to repeal the Illegal Migrants Determination by Tribunals Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to drop any proposal for the repeal of the Act to remove the feeling of insecurity among the minorities of Assam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The proposal to repeal the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) In view of answer to (a) and (b) above, the question does not arise.

[Translation]

Hike In Import Duty on Sugar

118. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI KAMAL NATH :

SHRI MADAN PATIL :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 32 on December 1, 1998 regarding hike in import duty on sugar and state :

(a) whether the Government have recently announced imposition of 20 per cent import duty on sugar;

(b) if so, whether the sugar industry has sought to impose at least 40 per cent import duty on sugar;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to ban the import of sugar in the country keeping in view of heavy losses in sugar industry; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.