

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-955/80].

**ANNUAL REPORT OF SILK AND RAYON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL, BOMBAY, ETC.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): On behalf of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Silk and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay, for the year 1978-79 along with Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-956/80.]

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Audit\*\* Report on the accounts of the Coffee Board for the year 1977-78 (General Fund) and 1976-77 (Pool Fund). [placed in Library. See No. LT-957/80].

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT**

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Cotton Control (Amendment) Order, 1980 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 1508 in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 1980, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-958/80.]

**NOTIFICATIONS UNDER GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS (NATIONALISATION) ACT, AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER PUBLIC PROVIDENT FUND ACT**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): On behalf of Shri Maganbhai Barot, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English

versions) under section 17 of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972:—

(i) The General Insurance (Termination, Superannuation and Retirement of Officers and Development Staff) Amendment Scheme, 1980, published in Notification No. S. O. 313(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1980.

(ii) The General Insurance (Rationalisation and Revision of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Supervisory, Clerical and Subordinate Staff) Amendment Scheme, 1980, published in Notification No. S. O. 314(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1980.

(iii) S. O. 430(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th June, 1980 containing corrigenda to Notification No. S. O. 313(E) dated the 12th May, 1980.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-959/80.]

(2) A copy of the Public Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 1980 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. GSR 204(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th April 1980 under section 12 of the Public Provident Fund Act, 1968. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-960/80.]

(3) (i) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation for the year ended the 31st December, 1979, under sub-section (2) of section 32 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on

\*\*The Audit Report was laid on the Table on the 20th June, 1980.

the working of the above Corporation for the year ended the 31st December, 1979.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-961/80.]

12 11 hrs.

ASSAM APPROPRIATION (SECOND VOTE ON ACCOUNT) BILL, 1980  
ASSENT

SECRETARY: Sir, I lay on the Table the Assam Appropriation (Second Vote on Account) Bill, 1980, passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 10th June, 1980.

12.12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED STEEP RISE IN PRICES OF SUGAR IN DELHI, BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bosu. Not here. Shri Madhukar.

श्री कमला मिश्र मधुकर (मोतीहारी) : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर कृषि और ग्रामीण पुर्नर्माण मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस बारे में एक वक्तव्य दें :—

“जून, और जुलाई, 1980 के लिये सरकार द्वारा कम कोटा दिये जाने के कारण दिल्ली, बम्बई और कलकत्ता में चीनी के मूल्यों में भारी वृद्धि का समाचार।”

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): At the outset, I would like to share with the House Government's anxiety to maintain reasonable price of sugar. The House has had a num-

ber of occasions to consider the various aspects of the sugarcane and sugar economy in the country in recent weeks. During the beginning of the current sugar year which began on 1st October, the retail prices were in the range of Rs. 2.90 to Rs. 3.20 per kg. but their availability at the control prices, fixed by the previous Government, posed considerable difficulties. Since the re-introduction of partial control on sugar with dual pricing policy with effect from 17th December, 1979, the position of availability changed considerably. Sugar prices in the free sale market, however, have shown a tendency to firm up. Presently, they are in the range of about Rs. 600 to Rs. 670 per quintal in the principal wholesale markets of the country.

Sir, we should pause and ponder over the many dimensional situation of the sugarcane and sugar economy. Sugarcane production in the current 1979-80 season is tentatively estimated at about 130 million tonnes and at this level, it is lower by 17 per cent over the previous year (1978-79 sugar season). The House will appreciate that this sharp decline in sugarcane production, leading to a decline in the overall availability of sweetening agents, of the order of 3 million tonnes, has had a deleterious effect on the sweetening agent's situation. As a result of the steep fall in the area under sugarcane of the order of about 20 per cent compounded by a drought which was witnessed in many parts of the country towards the end of the season, the prices of all the sweetening agents produced from sugarcane had firmed up, due to overall reduced availability.

The Government's approach has been to evolve and apply an integrated package of programmes comprising the various facets including sugar production. Sugar releases, de-wardion operations expediting levy sugar movement, incentive for early crushing in the next season, reviewing the licensing policy for creation of new capacity etc.