

changes, blood picture, reproductive performance, birth defects in offspring and genetic changes. Similar investigations conducted over a period of 35 years in several countries on different food items, including chicken, fish and fish products, potatoes, onions, wheat and wheat products, rice, coca bean, date, strawberries, mango, papayas, mushrooms, spices and condiments have produced no evidence to suggest that the consumption of irradiated food could cause adverse biological effect.

(e) Does not arise.

Cases presented before M.R.T.P.C.

1749. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of grievances against the monopolistic, restrictive and unfair trade practices presented before the Monopolies and Restricted Trade Practices Commission during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken on those cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). The number of monopolistic, restrictive and unfair trade practices enquiries received by MRTP Commission was 910 and 350 during the years 1988 and 1989 respectively. The Commission disposed of 725 and 611 enquiries respectively during the years 1988 and 1989. During the period 1.1.1990 to 30.11.1990, the Commission received 290; 353 enquiries were disposed of during this period.

Indian Monsoon will go off-course' a Newsitem Captioned

1750 SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 14 December, 1990 under the caption "Gulf war's after effect-Indian Monsoon will go off-course".

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct any research study by some experts in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The effect of local events, such as the explosives in a war, on a strong phenomenon like Monsoon is not known. The India Meteorological Department, being the nodal department of Government of India for matters connected with weather, is regularly seized of weather related matters both in research and operational aspects.

Underwater Exploration and Excavation of Dwarka

1751. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the results so far from an underwater exploration and excavation by a team of marine archaeologists off the legendary city of Dwarka on the west coast to unraval the exact date of the Mahabharata and how the city was submerged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): The exploration and excavation of Dwarka and Bet-Dwarka since 1982 has led to discovery of many antiquities namely the inner and outer fortification walls, jetty bastions, in-situ walls of massive stone blocks, five perforated anchors, a ship-wreck, copper vessel stone blades and shell bangles etc. Based on these discoveries, some ten-