

pending issue of Show Cause Notice.

(c) There is provision in Section 30 of the Gold Control Act requiring dealers to stamp purity on ornaments.

Export of Agricultural Products

10421. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to export Agricultural products through the Ministry of Agriculture;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of Agricultural products proposed to be exported through Ministry of Agriculture; and

(d) how far the proposed change will be beneficial to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SREDHARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Telecasting of Malayalam Programmes from Air, Trivandrum

10422. SHRI SURESH KODIKKUNIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered to telecast Malayalam programme from AIR, Trivandrum station to Gulf countries especially to United Arab Emirate; and

(b) if so, the time by which it would start telecasting the Malayalam programme?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). All India Radio ,

Trivandrum does not telecast any programmes and it is also not possible technically to beam telecasts to Gulf countries from Trivandrum. There is also no proposal for broadcasting of Malayalam programmes for Gulf countries from All India Radio, Trivandrum. However, a fullfledged service comprising programmes in Hindi, Malayalam and Arabic directed to the Gulf region is proposed to be introduced as part of the 7th Plan proposals of All India Radio. The Service will primarily be directed towards Indian ethnic Groups in Saudi Arabia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, North and South Yemem, Kuwait, Jorden, and parts of Iran and Iraq. The Service will start as soon as two numbers of 250 KW SW transmitters being installed at Panaji, for the purpose, are commissioned.

Cinema Theatre in Akashvani Building Bombay

10423. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cinema theatre in the building of Akashvani in Mumbai (Bombay) is not being used though it is located in a prime locality near Churchgate station;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of days it was used for the period from 1st April, 1989 to 31st March, 1990; and

(d) the efforts made to use the theatre for other purposes including dramas and public functions?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). There is no cinema theatre situated in the building of Akashvani in Bombay. There is an Auditorium in the A.I.R. Broadcasting House Complex at

Churchgate, Bombay. This auditorium was handed over by A.I.R. to the National Film Development Corporation for screening of films. However, the auditorium was taken back from National Film Development Corporation for setting up AIR's Multi-track recording studio.

(c) and (d). After taking back the auditorium from National Film Development Corporation in 1988, it is being used for the purpose of recording of programmes before invited audiences. Renovation work to make the auditorium suitable for multi-track recording studio and civil modification works have already been initiated.

Assistance to Goldsmiths

10424. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM:
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND
VARMA:
SHRI A.R. ANTULAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the number of licenced goldsmiths in the country and their annual demand of gold;

(b) whether there is a propose to give loan or some relief to the goldsmiths for their rehabilitation being affected by the Gold Control Act now repealed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have taken any measures to meet the requirement of gold in the country; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The number of certified Goldsmiths

in the country was 3,78,416 in 1989. No assessment is however possible of the annual demand of gold required by goldsmiths.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Gold is not an essential commodity hence no action has been taken to meet the requirement of gold in the country.

NRI Investment in the Capital Issues of Indian Companies

10425. SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEO:
SHRI SHANTARAM
POTDUKHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an alarming slump in the Non-Resident Indian (NRI) investments in the capital issues of Indian Companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether even in the domestic money market, the investors are in a dilemma over debenture tactics of the Companies; and

(d) if so, the measures Government propose to take to countenance the situation and revamp the investment market—both NRI and domestic investments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d). Investors response to the issue of company depends upon a variety of factors, including the general state of the capital market, the marketing effort put in by the company, its past record, the expectations and perception of the investors and