

The Council has estimated that about 95% of the country's cashew exports are effected through Cochin Port.

Waiver of interest on loans availed by Punalur Paper Mills

1622. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) has agreed to waive the entire interest on loans availed by the Punalur Paper Mills in Kerala;

(b) the main bankers/financiers of the Punalur Paper Mills;

(c) whether all concerned banks/financiers were consulted on the matter of waiver of interest;

(d) whether further advance for revival of the unit is proposed to be made by the banks, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Unit is likely to commence functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) has agreed to consider a one-time settlement proposal from Punalur Paper Mills (PPM) subject to certain terms and conditions.

(b) Canara Bank is the sole banker to the unit and ICICI is the lead institution. The other financial institutions involved are IDBI and IFCI.

(c) Bank and financial institutions were kept informed by ICICI regarding institutions' willingness to consider company's proposal for one-time settlement.

(d) The promoter of the company had recently indicated that he does

not require any financial assistance from institutions and bank for running the unit.

(e) In view of uncertainties regarding settlement and other factors to be taken care of by the promoters of the company, ICICI is unable to indicate a time for reopening of the mill.

[*Translation*]

Telecast of Life History of Great Personalities

1623. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allot more time to telecast the life history of great personalities who have inspired the people; and

(b) whether Government propose to make television the pivot of social change by making radical changes in its programming by telecasting patriotic programmes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to telecast programmes on personalities of national eminence to acquaint the viewers with the tremendous contributions made by them in the various fields of national life and to motivate them to emulate them in the interest of the overall development of the country.

Construction of yatri-niwas at Udaipur (Rajasthan)

1624. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a 'Yatri Niwas' for the stay of domestic and foreign tourists visiting Udaipur in Rajasthan;