

COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). An amount of Rs. 389.8 crores has been spent towards creating milk processing, conservation and marketing facilities under Operation Flood from the commencement of the Programme in 1970 until February, 1989. The following capacities are available under Operation Flood (January, 1989):—

Processing	—	128.9 llpd
Chilling	—	52.4 llpd
Metro Marketing	—	36.4 llpd
Milk powder production capacity	—	624.5 MT/day

(llpd = lakh litres per day).

Processing facilities are created to provide essentially to meet the peak season procurement, which is generally 50% more than the lean season procurement. The average capacity utilisation of milk plants in January, 1989 in the Operation Flood project area, was about 86% and in 34 milksheds, the utilisation exceeded the capacity.

Utilisation of Tetra Pack Machines

8102. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 20 per cent capacity of 18 Tetra pack Machines purchased by National Dairy Development Board in 1981 is being

presently utilised;

(b) if so, the reasons for low utilisation of the capacity of these machines;

(c) whether the Tetrabrick machines purchased on single tender basis in 1986-87 with the cost three times more than Tetra Pack machines are also lying unutilised; and

(d) if so, the reasons for buying these machines and their lying unutilised and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). National Dairy Development Board received 16 Tetra Pack machines during 1980-82. The capacity utilisation of these machines during 1988-89 was about 13 per cent. Low utilisation has been mainly due to reduced availability of milk for aseptic packaging following drought conditions in the recent past.

(c) and (d). Of the 31 Tetra Brick machines purchased, 24 have been installed and 7 have been allotted. Tetra brick machines are technologically superior to Tetra Pack machines. Single tender purchase became necessary since only Tetrapack had quoted for such machines and at that point of time Tetrapack were the only internationally renowned manufacturing firm for aseptic packaging machines.

Being new to our country, aseptic packaging would naturally take time to establish itself.