

they will look into the restrictions on low quality jute?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. I think this would be one of the points on which they will give their opinion.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know what proportion of these 40 lakh bales of jute produced at present will be regarded as quality jute?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am afraid I would have to ask for notice.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, in view of the fact that Government have goaded the growers to grow more jute, is it not obligatory on the part of Government to guarantee economic price to the growers?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Government do feel concerned that adequate prices should be given. But circumstances arise where Government could not achieve the objective of giving the best possible prices.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CATTLE EPIDEMICS

***1079. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a great number of domestic animals, specially cows and buffaloes are lost every year due to epidemics?

(b) What is the average of cow death per year during the last five years?

(c) What steps are being taken by Government to protect domestic animals from epidemics?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when available.

(c) The State Veterinary Departments, who are primarily responsible for combating epidemics amongst domestic animals are running a large number of Veterinary Hospitals and carrying out vaccinations. The Government of India are formulating a comprehensive programme for eradication of rinderpest which takes the heaviest toll amongst bovine cattle. As a precursor to this, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have sanctioned a five-year scheme for the

vaccination of cattle, sheep and goats under field conditions with lapinised vaccine and testing the nature and duration of the immunity produced by it under a variety of conditions met in the country.

IMPORT OF CHEESE

***1084. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cheese is manufactured mostly from sheep milk;

(b) the quantity and value of cheese annually imported and from which countries; and

(c) what steps are being taken to meet the total demand of the country for the same?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) No. Sheep milk is not used for the manufacture of cheese in India.

(b) The quantity and value of cheese imported into India during the last four years was as under:—

	Quantity (Cwts.)	Value (Rs.)
1949-50	12,250	19,27,960
1950-51	6,210	15,65,160
1951-52	9,770	21,17,720
1952-53 9 mths.	4,230	9,18,120

About 88 per cent. of the imports come from Australia and the rest mostly from European countries and New Zealand.

(c) Private enterprise has not so far come forward in this field as the conditions for competitive manufacture of cheese are unfavourable and Government also have found it unsafe to risk starting a Government venture for this purpose. There may be better prospects for this industry when dairying gets better established.

CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

***1087. Shrimati Shakuntala:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage reclaimed by the Central Tractor Organisation in Uttar Pradesh in the year 1952;

(b) whether any jungle clearance work has been undertaken by this Organisation in the Kumaon Hills; and