

- (i) Automatic approval by Reserve Bank of India for all proposals where foreign investment in the equity capital of the Indian Company is upto 51% and where the foreign equity covers the foreign exchange requirements for import of capital goods needed for the projects, subject to stipulations contained in the Manual of Policy and Procedures Governing Industrial Approvals.
- (ii) Proposals for foreign equity participation beyond 51% are considered by the Government on the basis of the merits of the case.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The existing policy contains provisions for consideration of proposals involving 100% foreign equity participation.

#### SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES FOR P.D.S.

\*126. Shri Probin Deka :  
Shri Kabindra Purkayastha :

Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) the commodities supplied to the consumers through Public Distribution System in the North-Eastern States, particularly in Assam, Mizoram and Tripura;

(b) whether the Union Government are aware of the fact that irregular and inadequate supply of essential commodities has increased prices of the consumer goods;

(c) if so, the details there of and steps taken by the Government to ensure availability of these items at reasonable prices;

(d) whether there is any demand to add some more items under Public Distribution System; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) Central Government arranges to supply rice, wheat, levy sugar, superior kerosene oil (SKD), imported edible oil and soft/CIL coke for the Public Distribution System (PDS) to all States/UTs including the North Eastern States.

(b) and (c) Central Government makes all efforts to maintain regular supply PDS commodities to all States. No State Government has reported increase in prices of consumer goods due to irregular and inadequate supplies of essential commodities. Allocations for the PDS are supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the

entire requirement of any State/UT. Central Government issues PDS commodities at Central Issue prices which are highly subsidised and are below the open market prices.

(d) and (e) State Government have been advised to distribute additional commodities of mass consumption such as tea, iodised salt, pulses and soaps on their own depending on local requirements and consumer preferences. Many State Governments have reported that they are distributing such commodities in the areas covered under the Revamped PDS.

[Translation]

#### CULTIVATION OF SOYABEAN

\*127. Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the States where the cultivation of Soyabean is being undertaken;

(b) the total area of land brought under such cultivation during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the total production of Soyabean during the above period, State-wise;

(d) the Steps being taken by the Government to increase the cultivation of Soyabean; and

(e) the details of the progress made in setting up of Soyabean based industries like "Soya-Milk", "Soya-Cheese", etc.?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) :

(a) The major soyabean growing States are Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat.

(b) and (c) State-wise area and production for the last three years is good in the enclosed Statement.

(d) To increase the cultivation of oilseeds including soyabean, Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 22 states covering 337 districts. Assistance is provided under OPP for production and distribution of seeds, Distribution of sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, Rhizobium culture and PSB, gypsum and pyrites, etc. Further, to propagate the production technology, frontline demonstrations are organised by the ICAR and block demonstrations by the State Departments of Agriculture.

(e) Much progress has not been made in setting up of soyabean based industries like Soya-Milk and Soya - cheese. Some entrepreneurs have started production of soya products on a limited scale. However, 98 soyabean processing industries have been set up with an installed capacity of 70 lakh tonnes per annum.

## STATEMENT

State	Area (Thousand Hectares)			Production (Thousand Tonnes)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Andhra Pradesh	2.6	4.5	6.0	2.3	5.0	5.0
Gujarat	17.0	18.4	20.0	11.7	14.0	14.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.9	0.8	18.0	0.3	0.3	5.0
Karnataka	41.3	37.8	47.0	27.0	33.5	42.0
Madhya Pradesh	3054.0	3289.5	2910.0	2598.9	3480.9	2587.0
Maharashtra	365.0	501.7	561.0	361.4	671.4	526.0
Orissa	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.0
Rajasthan	264.8	345.5	403.0	333.4	369.9	443.0
Uttar Pradesh	30.4	36.1	33.0	37.9	36.7	35.0
Others	11.8	12.3	11.0	13.4	14.6	14.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3788.7</b>	<b>4247.5</b>	<b>4010.0</b>	<b>3386.9</b>	<b>4626.3</b>	<b>3672.0</b>

## SUGAR STOCK

\*128. **Shri Shiv Sharan Verma :**  
**Shri Manikrao Hodiya Gavli :**

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to create a buffer stock of Sugar;

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have frozen issuing sugar Licences during the last several months and even Sugar Mills are not being allowed expansion; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) :** (a) and (b) The proposals for creating a buffer stock of sugar is under consideration of the Government of India.

(c) and (d) The Central Government is at present reviewing the licensing policy for sugar industry. The grant of letters of intent/industrial licences for establishment of

new sugar factories expansion of the existing units will be considered thereafter.

## FAIR PRICE SHOPS

\*129. **Dr. Vasant Niwruoti Pawar :** Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Fair Price Shops in the country as on November 30, 1995, State-wise; and

(b) the percentage of total population of the country covered by these shops; State-wise?

**The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) :** (a) The total number of fair price shops in the country, State-wise as per reports received from State Governments upto June, 1995, in the Statement annexed.

(b) As per policy of the Central Government, the entire population of the country is to be covered by the Public Distribution System through these fair price shops and mobile fair price shops by the State Governments/UT Administrations.