

Smuggling of Groundnut Oil

363. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to State :

- (a) whether Groundnut oil is smuggled out of the country through Kutch border of Gujarat State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken/proposed by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Reports have appeared in a section of the Press indicating that large quantities of groundnut oil are being clandestinely diverted to Pakistan through Kutch and Saurashtra resulting in a continuous rising trend in prices of groundnut oil.

(c) Government has taken necessary steps in order to check any such smuggling of oil from the country.

Price of Essential Commodities under PDS

364. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have considered the proposal to reduce the price of Rice and Wheat distributed through the Public Distribution System ;
- (b) if so, to what extent;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Central Government has not passed on the increases in Minimum Support Prices of rice and wheat effected since Kharif 1994, to the Public Distribution System Consumers. There is no proposal to reduce the Central Issue Prices of foodgrains for Public Distribution System in view of the need to maintained food subsidy expenditure at levels that can be sustained by the economy and the Nation.

[Translation]

"Complaints Regarding Industrial Pollution"

365 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHARAO
GUNDEWAR:
SHRI LALL BABU RAI :
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a number of complaints related to environment pollution and forests during 1st June, 1995 to 15th November, 1995 from various organisations and Members of Parliament;

(b) If so, the details thereof State-wise; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir. A total of 324 complaints including 44 from Members of Parliament have been received in the Ministry during 1st June, 1995, to 15th November, 1995.

(b) A State-wise list is given in the attached statement.

(c) On the basis of the complaints, these are referred to the concerned organisations such as State Governments, Pollution Control Boards, District Authorities and Local Bodies for investigation and redressal. In case complaints are not settled at the Local/State level, the Central Government takes measures for the redressal of the complaint.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of Complaints received	
		Members of Parliaments	Various Organisations
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	—
2.	Assam	—	2
3.	Bihar	2	27
4.	Gujarat	1	4
5.	Haryana	1	26
6.	Himachal Pradesh	7	4
7.	Karnataka	—	2
8.	Kerala	—	3
9.	Maharashtra	1	16
10.	Madhya Pradesh	7	15