

(c) and (d). Productivity and growth in agriculture will receive high priority during the Eighth Plan. The details of measures to be adopted, the programmes and the policies will be included in the Eighth Plan document which is under preparation.

Shortage of edible oils

4785. SHRI K. PARADHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of edible oils in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). On the basis of the agriculture Ministry's oilseeds production projection of 192.3 lakh MTs for the year 1990-91, the shortfall in the net edible oil availability is estimated at around 6 lakh MTs.

The remedial steps taken to increase the production of oilseeds/edible oils are:

1. Two centrally sponsored schemes namely national Oilseeds Development Projects (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Trust Project (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 into a single scheme namely Oilseeds Production programmes (OPP) This scheme essentially provides assistance to the states for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures including supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of advanced technology.

2. The oilseeds projects of the NDDB.

3. Setting up of a Technology Mission on Oilseeds established in may 1986 for harvesting the best of production, processing and management technologies.

4. Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds.

5. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds.

6. Increasing the area under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran, etc.

7. Efforts for promoting oil palm cultivation and processing.

8. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

9. Fiscal incentives in the form of excise rebate for use of certain non-conventional oils in the vanaspati so as to encourage increased exploitation of these sources of oils.

Export of Molasses

4786. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has approached the Union Government to export its excess quantity of molasses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the alcohol year 1990-91, the State Government of Tamil Nadu sought permission for export of one lakh tonnes of molasses which has been allowed.

Cut in Annual Plans of States

4787. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have imposed a cut in annual plans of the States for the year 1991-92 as a result of the recent policy of economising the expenditure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Medical Electronic Equipments

4788. SHRI VJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the value of electronic medical equipments produced in India during the last three years;

(b) the success achieved in manufacturing those electronic equipments which were being imported in the past; and

(c) the steps the Government are taking to manufacture all electronic medical equipments in India instead of importing them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in crores</i>
1988-89	50.00
1989-90	65.00
1990-91	80.00

(b) Many of the diagnostic, monitoring and life saving electronic medical equipments which were earlier imported, are now being produced in the country. Some of these equipments are: ultra sound scanners, CAT scanners, ECG machines, X-ray equipments X-ray image intensifiers, bed side monitors, central nursing stations, defibrillators and electro surgical units etc.

(c) The Government is engaged in promoting indigenisation of medical electronic equipments by way of technology development and R & D Programmes. The indigenous technology developed for a number of items has been transferred to the industry for commercial manufacture. Some of such items are : Linear Accelerator for Cancer Therapy, Portable Hemoglobinometer for field use, Portable Electronic Weighing Scale for Primary Health Care and Hand Held Data Entry System for Health Care Data collection. It is expected that these items will be manufactured within the country in the near future.

In order to attract and encourage entrepreneurs in this field, this industry has been kept outside the scope of compulsory licensing. Selective import of technology through Foreign Collaborations for variety of medical electronic equipment has been promoted by the Government. To further encourage the industry, the Government has put it in the list of high priority industries by including it in Annexure-III of the Statement on Industrial