

ing adulteration and if not, whether they have taken steps to see that wrong statistics are not circulated which puts public health in jeopardy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) Yes. Out of 932 samples collected and analysed by Delhi Municipal Corporation (not Delhi Administration) during the year 1972, adulteration was found in 195 cases i.e. 20.92 per cent.

(b) No studies have been carried out by the Central Committee for Food Standards. The Directorate of Marketing and Inspection had conducted a survey relating to the quality of ghee sold loose in urban markets in the country. The survey showed more than 60 per cent of the samples adulterated. None of the samples collected was from Delhi and therefore this percentage has no relevance to Delhi.

(c) The percentage of samples found adulterated in Delhi during the years 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970 & 1971 was 19.9 per cent, 16.8 per cent, 14.4 per cent, 18.7 per cent and 19 per cent respectively. Hence the percentage during 1972 published for Delhi in news papers appears to be quite realistic and as such there should be no question of wrong statistics being circulated.

Conversion of brackish water into drinking water

2792. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian engineer in US is now touring drought affected areas to explore the possibilities of setting up plants that will convert brackish water into drinking water;

(b) whether Government have evinced interest to patronise the move and if so, the different places that

have been surveyed for this purpose; and

(c) whether Rajasthan which is chronically a drought affected area has been included for this survey and if so, the places selected for this purpose and whether the feasibility of the scheme has been worked out and if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) to (c). Position is being ascertained. The information will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Supply of sugar to fair price shops in Delhi

2793. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether supplies of sugar to fair price shops in Delhi have been reduced without corresponding reduction of quota to the card holders,

(b) if so, the reasons for the same and whether this reduction is applicable all over the country; and

(c) whether sugar production in the country in this season would not be adequate enough to meet the requirements; if so, whether imports are envisaged to meet the deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The State Governments regulate supplies to fair price shops within the allocations made to them by the Central Government every month. The Delhi Administration appears to have reduced their supplies to fair shops as part of their drive to unearth bogus ration cards.

(c) By judiciously controlling the monthly releases, the requirements of sugar will be met within the limit of its availability. No import of sugar will be necessary.