

**Supply of Water for Irrigation from Chambal Canal**

2815 SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether the farmers of Morena district of Madhya Pradesh do not get timely and adequate supply of water for irrigation from the Chambal canal, and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for solving their problems?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH) (a) No complaint about the inadequate and untimely supply of waters for irrigation to Morena district of Madhya Pradesh from the Chambal Canal has so far been received by the Government of India

(b) Does not arise

**Raise in price of Vanaspati by Hindustan Lever**

2816. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether immediately after Government's announcement of lifting of price control in the second week of January, 1975, M/s Hindustan Lever, the principal vanaspati producer in the country, announced a steep price hike for its vanaspati products,

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof;

(c) on how many occasions, during the last 2 years prices of vanaspati products were allowed to be enhanced;

(d) the extent of and reasons for enhancement on each occasion;

(e) what are the arguments of the company in favour of the recent price hike; and

(f) whether the Government agree with the arguments put forward by the Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNA SAHEB P SHINDE) (a) and (b) Hindustan Lever Ltd maintained the prices of vanaspati unchanged for about a week after removal of statutory control on the 5th January, 1975. Thereafter, increases averaging 64 paise per kg (with zonal variations) were effected on the 13th January, 1975 and reductions averaging 35 paise per kg. on the 24th February, 1975. Many other factories have also been effecting increases and reductions more or less of the same order.

(c) The prices were raised on five occasions but also reduced on two occasions

(d) The extent of increase/reduction allowed is shown below:—

(Paise per kg.)

	North Zone	South Zone	East Zone	West Zone					
2-1-1973 . . .	(+) 40	(+) 40	(+) 40	(+) 40					
1-6-1973 . . .	(+) 75	(+) 75	(+) 75	(+) 75					
16-7-1973 . . .	(+) 75	(+) 75	(+) 75	(+) 75					
16-11-1973 . . .	(-) 20	(-) 20	(-) 20	(-) 20					
1-12-1973 . . .	(-) 20	(-) 20	(-) 20	(-) 20					
		North Zone	South Zone	East Zone	West Zone	West Zone	West Zone		
					(other than Gujarat)	(Gujarat)			
1-2-1974 . . .		(+) 55	(+) 60	(+) 56	(+) 60	(+) 54			
15-6-1974 . . .		(+) 185	(+) 195	(+) 220	(+) 195	(+) 180			

The increases/reductions were necessitated mainly by the upward/downward fluctuations in the prices of raw oils used by the industry and only to such extent as could not be avoided through adjustments in the level of usage of imported oils, which too was eventually discontinued in June, 1974.

(e) The firm has attributed the increase in prices effected by it on the 13th January, 1975 to the substantial increase in (i) packing costs, (ii) cost of chemicals and (iii) cost of electricity, coal and furnace oil, since the price structure of the industry was last enquired into by the Tariff Commission.

(f) The vanaspati industry had, for some time before decontrol, been representing against the inadequacy of the notified prices, and a few factories had even challenged these prices in court. In view of this, some increase in prices following decontrol was only to be expected.

#### Estimated cost of Irrigation Project under Construction

2817. SHRI K. L. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the major irrigation projects costing more than Rs. 50 crores each which are under construction and which could be expedited to develop full potential in the next three years;

(b) what the irrigation potential of the above projects is and how much has been achieved so far; and

(c) what is the amount of money that has already been spent and how much money has yet to be spent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is attached.