

Import of Fishing Equipment from Japan

435. **SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :**

SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any contract has recently been signed with the Government of Japan for the import of fishing equipment and machinery from Japan;

(b) what are the terms of contract; and

(c) expenditure in foreign exchange likely to be incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the terms of the agreement signed between the Government of India and Government of Japan on 30-11-1984, Government of Japan would provide 410 million Yen for the development of small scale fisheries in India. The amount will be utilised for the purchase of equipment and machinery from Japan for producing fishing nets and services necessary for the transportation of the products.

(c) There is no out-flow of foreign exchange as the fishing equipment and

machinery from Japan will be imported under Japanese grant-in-aid of 410 million Yen.

Hike in Prices of Agricultural Implements

436. **SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of agriculture implements have increased considerably during the last three years;

(b) whether the prices of agricultural produce have not increased as compared to the increase in the prices of implements; and

(c) whether Government proposed to enhance the prices of agricultural produce and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Prices of agricultural implements have increased due to increase in the cost of raw material, manufacturing costs, etc. However, the rise in the same has not been out of the tune with general price rise as would be apparent from the following table :-

Wholesale Price Index with 1970-71 as base (100)

	1981-82	Increase in 82-83 over 1981-82	1982-83	Increase in 83-84 over 1982-83	1983-84
Foodgrains	237.4	11.4	248.8	25	273.8
All Commodities	277.1	18.2	295.3	27.6	322.9
Machines & Machine Tools	254.2	13.4	267.6	16.1	283.7

(b) From the table given in para (a) it would be apparent that prices of foodgrains have risen more sharply during the years 1981-82 to 1983-84.

(c) The Central Government fixes support prices for principal foodgrains every

year on the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission which sets the trend of prices of foodgrains in the market. While making the said recommendation, the A.P.C. takes into account the prevailing costs of all the relevant inputs.