

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to make available suitable small packings of vanaspati and palm oil during the festival season ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) In the recent past, there has not been any shortage of vanaspati and the availability of oil to the industry is satisfactory.

(b) and (c). It is not correct to say that Vanaspati and imported palm oil (palmolein) are being packed in 4 kg. tins only. Vanaspati is being packed in small packs of $\frac{1}{2}$ kg. pouch, 1 kg. pouch $\frac{1}{2}$ kg poly jar, 2 kg. tin and poly jar and 5 kg. tin and poly jar.

In so far as packing of palm oil (palmolein) is concerned, it was being marketed in 4 kg. and 2 kg. packs. However, with effect from 1.6.1984, 5 kg, 2kg, 1 kg and $\frac{1}{2}$ kg packs have also been introduced to suit the requirement of different categories of consumers. This scheme is in operation in 18 States and 4 Union Territories where these packs are handed over to agencies nominated by State Governments to sell them through Fair Price Shops/cooperative outlets.

According to Package Commodity Rules, 4 kg. packs have been discontinued.

Jobs for Landless Labourers

860. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for providing employment in rural areas, particularly for providing jobs to the landless labourers during the current financial year;

(b) whether some States have also announced that they have made plans to give jobs to every man for a certain period; and

(c) if so, the amount provided for employment generation and the number of persons likely to get jobs during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) There are two

main programmes for providing employment in rural areas which are being implemented by this Ministry, namely, the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). Under the NREP, an amount of Rs. 230.0 crores has been allocated as central share for implementation of the programme during the current financial year and the State Governments are required to provide an equivalent amount as their matching share. The RLEGP which seeks to improve and expand employment opportunities for the rural landless has been provided an amount of Rs. 400 crores in the budget for 1984-85.

(b) and (c) The NREP and the RLEGP are being implemented in all the States. In the NREP the States share expenditure on a matching basis while the RLEGP is fully funded by the Central Government. In addition to these schemes the only significant State scheme which guarantees employment in rural areas is the Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme. This scheme provides guarantee of employment for unskilled manual labour. The budget provision for this scheme during 1984-85 is Rs. 124.81 crores. The target for generating employment during 1984-85 under the NREP and RLEGP is 309.13 and 300.0 million mandays respectively. The target regarding employment generation under State schemes is not monitored at the Central Government level.

Production and Requirement of Seeds

861. SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been massive increase in improved seeds in the country notably by National Seeds Corporation and if so, details thereof;

(b) the quantum of these seeds (breeder, foundation and certified) produced and marketed by National Seeds Corporation which were exported during each of the last three years and income accrued therefrom;