

(d) the value of damage to foodgrain stocks due to rains, this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a), (b) and (c) Yes, Sir, Some stocks of wheat received by rail at Sabzi Mandi railhead could not be removed to Food Corporation of India Depots in time because of Sudden stoppage of transportation of stocks by the handling and transport contractor. There was no damage to the stocks, however demurrage/wharfage charges to the tune of Rs. 5.5 lakhs, as worked out, are being recovered from the pending bills of the handling and transport contractor as per contract terms.

(b) No damage to foodgrains in Delhi due to rains has been reported during this year.

**Appointment of NAFED as Oilseed Procurement Agency**

1952, DR. B. L. SHAIKESH  
SHRI V. TULSIRAM :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have designated the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) as the nodal agency for a period of 5 years for undertaking price support to kharif oilseeds, namely groundnut, soyabean and sunflower seeds;

(b) whether the NAFED has started its price support operations from the current season;

(c) if so, role assigned to various constituents involved in these operations in the oilseeds producing States like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra;

(d) impact of these arrangements on the market fluctuations and on-the-spot buying; and

(e) financial implications so far as NAFED and other participating constituents are concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) In October, 1985, the Government designated NAFED as the nodal agency for price support operations for oilseeds namely groundnut, soyabean and sunflower seed for a period of 5 years with effect from 1985-86 kharif season.

(b) NAFED has already commenced price support operations in the current kharif season. Upto 24.11.1985, 30,000 MTs of soyabean has been purchased under the scheme.

(c) NAFED has tied up the arrangements with the State Cooperative Marketing Federations and the Oilseeds Growers Federations. These organisations would act as agents of NAFED and operate through local farmers cooperatives. To facilitate the operations, purchase centres have been identified, storage arrangements made and working finance assured. The cooperatives would make purchase at 300 centrens in Madhya Pradesh, 150 centrens in Uttar Pradesh, 40 centres in Rajasthan and 20 centres each in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

(b) The prices of groundnut and sunflower seed are presently ruling above the support level. The purchase operations of soyabean in Madhya Pradesh has started and the arrivals in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra are yet to pick up. Farmers are being assured of purchase of soyabean arrivals under the scheme.

(e) Entire purchases under the scheme would be made on NAFED's account. 100% of the losses if any, incurred on the operations would be met by the Government. To facilitate purchase operations, a short term loan of Rs. 5 crores has been sanctioned by the Government to NAFED. Government has recommended sanction of adequate credit facility to NAFED by the

Reserve Bank of India to facilitate implementation of the scheme.

**Economic difficulties of fishermen of Maharashtra**

1953. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have noted the economic difficulties of fishermen of Maharashtra due to lower and falling catches;

(b) detrimental effects on small fishermen by the import and construction of a large number of big boats;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of such a survey ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, significant fall in marine fish catches has been reported from Maharashtra. However, slight variation in catch quantum is attributed to natural fluctuations of fishery resources. In view of this the question of economic difficulties of fishermen of Maharashtra does not arise.

(b) Government of Maharashtra have enacted suitable legislation to protect the interests of small fishermen by delimiting operational areas for different sizes of fishing vessels. There is no detrimental effect on small fishermen by import and construction of large fishing vessels which operate beyond territorial waters as per legislation.

(c) and (d) In view of answers for parts (a) and (b) the questions at parts (c) & (d) do not arise.

**Crop Insurance Scheme**

1954. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) steps taken by Government to encourage Crop Insurance Scheme and make it popular and beneficial to farmers in view of heavy floods and drought in various parts of the country;

(b) whether Government have made any detailed studies of crop insurance schemes as prevalent in advanced countries of Europe and America; and

(c) if so, how far such schemes can be adopted in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Detailed instructions have been issued to all the State Governments and Union Territories for giving wide publicity to the Crop Insurance Scheme. Some of the State Governments have already published literature in regional languages for distribution among farmers. States have been impressed upon to make use of Training & Visit (T&V) system and the media namely, Doordarshan and All India Radio for giving wide publicity to the scheme.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Supply of palmolein oil to Gujarat**

1955. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is free trade of edible oil in the country;

(b) whether there are different rates of edible oil (indigenous) in each and every State;

(c) the details of the demand sent by the Gujarat State Government for the supply of Palmolein oil during the last six months, month-wise and the actual supply made; and

(d) whether the supply made by the Centre was much less than the demand,