

**Supply of imported edible oils to
Vanaspatti Industry**

2037. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are working out a new policy for supply of imported edible oils to the vanaspatti industry in the current season which has just begun;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof;

(c) how it will bring down the present vanaspatti manufacturing cost in the interest of the consumers; and

(d) the mode of allocation of edible oils to the various vanaspatti manufacturing units and the canalising agency therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) According to the policy effective from 15th November, 1985 vanaspatti industry is at present permitted to utilise 50% imported oil instead of 60% of their requirement in the manufacture of vanaspatti. They have also been permitted to use a maximum of 10% expeller mustard oil.

(c) The present manufacturing cost of vanaspatti will not be brought down. However, it will give incentive for increased production of oilseeds and remunerative returns to oilseeds farmers for their produce. It will also help in reducing the imports and consequent foreign exchange outgo.

(d) Currently, the allocation of imported edible oils to vanaspatti units is being made on their monthly average production for each quarter. The State Trading Corporation is the canalising agency for import of edible oils.

Area under cultivation

2038. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the area presently under cultivation in the country; and

(b) potential for an increase in agricultural production based on an expansion in the area under cultivation as envisaged in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The total cultivated area during 1984 85 is estimated to be around 155 million hectare.

(b) There is now only limited potential for an increase in agricultural production based on an expansion in the area under cultivation. On the other hand, the output targets specified in the Seventh Plan would largely depend on increases in yield per hectare through greater use of inputs including expansion in irrigation which will inter alia, facilitate increase in gross cropped area and raise the cropping intensity.

Deep-Sea fishing in Bombay Coast

2039. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) reasons for neglect of Bombay by deep-sea fishing industry;

(b) number of deep-sea fishing boats based in Bombay;

(c) whether this neglect is due to the over-fishing near Bombay;

(d) steps being taken to exercise control over fishing on Maharashtra coast;

(e) whether reduced catches are due to the entry of foreign fishing boats; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons for reduced catches ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) The Commercial deep sea fishing vessels owned by Indian companies and the Government of India vessels are not assigned to any