

being developed and brought into scientific aquaculture through the trained aquafarmers. At present, there are 147 Fish Farmers Development Agencies operating in the country. These are district based agencies and are engaged in arrangement of lease of Government waters specially the tanks and ponds, providing financial assistance to develop the water areas and for first year's input, providing training on scientific aquaculture and transferring aquaculture technologies.

The Government, to promote aquaculture activities in the country have also launched schemes to be implemented in various States for creation of infrastructure for producing quality fish seed required for the purpose.

Government of India are also helping States for getting bilateral/international assistance for implementation of aquaculture schemes. Besides, the Union Government also act as liaiso organisation for transfer of experience in the field of aquaculture sector from one State to other.

[English]

Estimate of oilseeds production

2126. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of oilseeds has been estimated at around 135 lakh tonnes against the estimate of 130 lakh tonnes this year;

(b) whether to ensure that the oilseed growers and the oil industry get good return, Government would ensure better take off by the Vanaspati industry; and

(c) whether import of edible oils for 1985-86 will also be reduced proportionately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Estimates of oilseeds production for this year i.e. 1985-86 are not yet due. However, in respect of the 1984-85 oilseed crop, against the

official estimate of production of 130.98 lakh tonnes, the Central Organisation for Oil Industry and Trade has furnished an estimate of 135.00 lakh tonnes.

(b) Allocation of imported oil to the vanaspati industry has been progressively reduced from a level of 95 per cent of its requirement in November, 1984 to 50 per cent at present. Further, the issue price of imported oil to the vanaspati industry has recently been increased. The industry has also been permitted to meet 10 per cent of its requirement by using solvent extracted mustard/rapeseed oil and further 10 per cent by expeller mustard/rapeseed oil. These measures are expected to increase the utilisation of indigenous oils by the vanaspati industry, consequently boosting the demand of indigenous oils and improving the price regime for indigenous oils and oilseeds.

(c) The quantum of imports of edible oils is decided by the Government after taking into account, amongst other things, an assessment of the likely availability of indigenous oils and projected demand for the same. Government's decision in this regard during the current year will therefore depend upon the emerging demand supply situation. It is the consistent policy of the Government to keep the level of edible oil imports at the minimum.

[Translation]

Construction of houses by C. P. W. D. for Central Government Employees

2128. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether C.P.W.D. is engaged in the construction of houses in order to provide houses to Central Government employees; and

(b) the extent to which current construction works are likely to be completed by the end of 1986, and the areawise number of houses which are being constructed at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes.

(b) The information is given in the statement below.