

Edible Oil from rice bran and maize

3125. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ICAR Scientists have outlined the need for extracting edible oil from rice bran and maize which could out imports by 50 per cent and if so, steps proposed;

(b) whether it is correct that the country has failed to improve oilseeds productivity despite many research projects, including CLUSA oilseeds project;

(c) whether Government propose to ban imports now or after some years and offer remunerative prices to encourage production; and

(d) reasons as to why Japanese offer of collaboration for edible rice bran project made in 1978 was not cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has identified rice bran as a source of edible oil, Maize germ is also a potential source. But the maximum exploitable potential of oil from rice bran is about 0.235 million tonnes and that from maize germ is round 0.02 million tonnes of which the amount economically exploitable for edible purposes will be much less.

(b) No, Sir, Oilseeds production technology in the country has increased the productivity of oilseeds.

(c) The Government is making every effort to augment the country's capability to improve and increase the production and availability of edible oils in order to achieve self reliance. With improvements in production, procurement and extraction technologies, it should be possible for us to eliminate our dependence on imports in course of time. Action has already been initiated to ensure price support for edible oilseeds.

(d) A Charitable non-profit social organisation made a proposal in 1980 to seek

technology and drawings from a Japanese firm for stabilisation and refining of rice bran oil. The proposal was not found acceptable as it lacked proper linkages with any national laboratory or organisation for transfer of technology to small and medium scale entrepreneurs. The applicant was accordingly advised to negotiate with the national laboratories and to submit a revised proposal which has so far not been received.

Ban on cow slaughter

3126. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether thousands of cows are being exported from Haryana and its neighbouring States to Howrah for slaughter;

(b) if so, whether various organisations all over the country have been demanding for a total ban on cow slaughter; and

(c) if so, the steps contemplated by Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Information is being collected from the States of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) A number of representations have been received from various organisations suggesting for total ban an cow slaughter.

(c) Preservation of cattle is a matter on which the State Legislatures have exclusive power to legislate. In accordance with that, various State Governments have enacted legislation relating to prevention of slaughter of cow and its progeny. The State Governments are requested from time to time to enforce the ban and that the same is not allowed to be circumvented by devious methods.