

ALLOCATION OF EDIBLE OIL TO GUJARAT

2442. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a shortage of edible oil in Gujarat resulting in higher prices;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any demand for allocation of imported edible oil; and

(c) if so, the monthly demand of the State and allocation of edible oil made during 1992-93 and 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) No shortage of edible oils has been reported by the State Government in Gujarat. The prices of edible oils are lower than those prevailed in the corresponding period last year.

(b) and (c) Government of Gujarat had demanded edible oils to the extent of 8000 MTs a month for the year 1992 upto October. No specific demand for edible oil has been received thereafter. A quantity of 6150 MTs imported palmolein was allocated to Gujarat during the financial year 1992-93. No allocation has been made during the current financial year.

ARASIKERE-HASSAN BROAD GAUGE RAILWAY LINE

2443. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying of broad-gauge railway line between Arasikere and Hassan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have started the construction work of this railway line;

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the amount provided for the above work during 1992-93; and

(d) the time schedule fixed for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The approximate cost of this work will be Rs. 176 crores. No outlay was provided in 1992-93.

(d) Work is yet to be included in the budget and therefore the time schedule for completion is not yet fixed.

MARKET INTERVENTION OPERATION FOR VEGETABLE OIL

2444. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee under the chairmanship of Shri P. V. Desai, Chairman, Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has recommended some measures to contain losses under Market Intervention Operation for vegetable oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on recommendations made of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Committee, in order to contain losses in future under Market Intervention operation (MIO), recommended that consumer prices of "Dhara" oil at retail end under MIO should be fixed only on commercial considerations and a ceiling may be prescribed on Government obligations towards recoupment of losses under MIO.

(c) The Empowered Committee on Oil-seeds Policy (ECOP) considered the divergent views expressed by the members of the "Desai Committee" on various aspects of the matter and recommended that the losses suffered by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in MIO may