Withdrawal of Imported Edible Oils from Public Distribution System

3047. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GAD-AKH PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Vanaspati Producers Association have urged the Government to withdraw imported edible oils from the public distribution system in the country;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) how much rape-seed oil was imported during the year 1984-85?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) A suggestion was received in this regard by the Government but it has not been found acceptable.

(c) A quantity of 2,57,713 MT approx. of crude represend oil was imported during the financial year 1984-85.

Conciliation Report About Paradeep Port Workers

3048. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) held several conciliation meetings to settle the claims of the Casual workmen under Paradeep Port Trust for permanency of service;

(b) whether the port authorities repeatedly failed to turn up at the conciliation meetings;

(c) if so, whether the conciliation proceedings failed and failure report has been received by the Ministry; and

(d) whether the dispute will be referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication and if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. AN-JIAH) (a) to (d) : The Paradip Bandar Shr, amik Union and Paradip Port Shramik Sangh had separately raised identical industrial disputes regarding absorption of 639 Casual Workmen. The Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central) held conciliation proceedings with the unions and Paradip Port Trust authorities. The Port Trust authorities could not attend some of the conciliation meetings, though they had submitted their views in writing to the Conciliation Officer, Reports of Failure of Conciliation have been received by Government and they are under process in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

Production of New Variety of Fertilisers

3049. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether more irrigation is required for the fields where fertilizer is used, whereas water preservation capacity of those fields is more where green manure, compost and cowdung manures are used ;

(b) if so, whether, keeping in view the increasing utility of fertilizers, Government will produce some fertilizers by the use of which water preseving capacity of fields is increased and more irrigation is not required; and

(c) if so, the time by which such fertilizers will be produced in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOP-MENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRA-KAR : (a) Yes Sir, availability of moisture, either through irrigation or rains, is a prerequisite for mobility as d uptake of nutrients applied through fertilisers. Application of organic manure, including compost and green manuring, improves the physical property of the soil resulting in increase in its water holding capacity and the imp rovement in soil fertility.

(b) and (c) There are no plans for production of any other kind of chemical

fertilizer at present, other than the convenional ones like Urea, Dia-Ammonium tPhosphate, Nitro Phosphate and N.P.K. fertilizers.

[Translation]

Installation of High Power Transmitters in Rajasthan

3050. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of IN-FORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts in Rajasthan where Government propose to provide Television facility during 1986-87;

(b) whether government propose to instal high power transmitters in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the places where these will be installed; and

(d) whether there is any scheme to link Chittorgarh city with the National T.V. Network programmes, and if so, the time by which it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BRO-ADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) to (d) The Schemes for future expansion of TV network in the country during the 7th Five Year Plan have not as yet been finalized as the shape and size of the plan is yet to be determined.

Shortage of Sugar in Bihar

3051. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPP-LIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of sugar in Bihar for some months;

(b) whether he had received any memorandum and letters in this regard in May, 1985 and if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the procedure adopted to allocate levy sugar to the Bihar Government by the sugar mills in the State and the time taken to release this sugar to the State Government; and

(d) the name of warehouses of Food Corporation of India in Bihar having stock of sugar alongwith the quantity of sugar in each of them and the period for which this quota of sugar will serve the needs of the State?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) The Food Corporation of India is arranging delivery of levy sugar to the nominees of the Bihar Government and they have been maintaining adequate stocks in their godowns in Bihar.

(b) A reference from the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, Govt. of Bihar was received in May, 1985, intⁱmating inadequate supply of sugar in Bihar. Copies of the said letter were also received through several Membersr of Parliament including the Hon'ble Member. FCI was advised to rush adequate stocks to Bihar. The Railway Board was also moved for providing adequate number of rakes for movement of sugar to various destinations in Bihar. As a result of action initiated by the Government sugar was moved on priority basis to Bihar and during the months of June and July, a total quantity of 40,306 and 44,194 tonnes respectively was moved.

(c) The share of each factory in a monthly levy release is worked out on the basis of uniform percentage of production upto o particular date prior to release and accordingly, the due levy-share of the Bihar factories is allotted each month. The total production of Bihar factories during the current 1984-85 season aggregate to 1.46 lakh tonnes and the levy entitlement out of the same is 0.72 lakh tonnes which is just sufficient to meet the requirement of Bihar for only $2\frac{1}{2}$ months and hence bulk of the monthly levy requirements of Bihar has to be met from the surplus State like Maharashtra.

(d) Food Corporation of India is maintaining a stock of 36,747.5 tonnes of sugar in their various godowns in Bihar as