

Import of Edible Oil

884. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that due depression in the international edible oil market in the middle of 1984, the State Trading Corporation did not or rather could not purchase or export or even store adequate quantities of edible oils;

(b) whether it is a fact that immediately afterwards, the State Trading Corporation imported edible oil at higher rate prevailing in the international market and incurred heavy losses;

(c) the rates of edible oils prevailing in the international market in the beginning of the year 1984 and those prevailing from September to December, 1984 and rate at which STC purchase edible oil; and

(d) the details of losses incurred by STC in the bargain ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). It is not correct to state that STC did not or export edible oil in adequate quantities during and depression period. During this period its purchases were more than in previous years.

Immediately afterwards purchases were, also made to meet further requirements. No losses were incurred in this.

(c) The average price of soyabean oil (SBO), RBD Palm Oil (RBD PO) and RBD Palmolein (RBD PL) prevailing in the international market in the beginning of 1984 and those prevailing from September to December, 1984 according to information available with STC were as follows :—

Year and Month	SBO (\$ PMT) ex-Mill Chicago	RBD PO (\$ PMT) FOB Malaysia	RBD \$ PMT FOB Malaysia
1	2	3	4
Jan. 1984	625	1091	128

	1	2	3	4
Feb 1984		591	976	108
Sept 1984		575	573	94
Oct. 1984		575	603	23
Nov. 1984		620	622	49
Dec. 1984		570	591	04

It is not in the Commercial interest of STC to disclose the purchase price.

(d) Does not arise in views of (b) above.

**Bank Robbery in Safdarjang Enclave
Branch of Indian Bank**

885. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in an armed robbery in the Safdarjang Enclave, Delhi Branch of the Indian Bank an amount of over Rs. 3 lakhs was looted recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that in majority of the nationalised banks particularly those located in the residential areas the security arrangement are inadequate;

(c) if so, what is the machinery, if any, to ensure that the nationalised banks have adequate security arrangements and modern alarm system to check bank robberies;

(d) whether keeping in view the increase in bank robberies Government propose to review the entire system of existing security arrangements in the nationalised banks to remove the deficiencies and to make them foolproof; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Indian Bank has reported that a sum of Rs. 2,87,514 was looted from its Safdarjang Enclave (New Delhi) Branch on 4-10-85.