

(b) the number of units engaged in identifying such pests, state-wise; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) All the plants and plant material coming into the country are checked and treated if need be, at all the International Airports, important seaports and strategic entry points on land frontier.

(b) These are located in the following States/UTs. :—

State	No. of Plant Quarantine and Fumigation Stations
1. Andhra Pradesh	2
2. Bihar	1
3. Delhi	1
4. Gujarat	1
5. Kerala	2
6. Maharashtra	2
7. Punjab	4
8. Tamil Nadu	6
9. Uttar Pradesh	1
10. West Bengal	6

(c) These facilities shall be augmented depending upon the need and availability of funds.

Sale of Sugar Through Traders

1231 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether with a view to keep sugar prices under control, Government have taken a decisions to remove the quantum limits on the sale of imported sugar through tenders;

(b) if so, the effect of this procedure on market prices;

(c) whether those who buy sugar through tender are required to sell it at a price fixed by Government and if not, how it helps in holding the price line; and

(d) the margin kept for traders who buy sugar through tenders and steps taken to ensure that they do not corner sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rise in the wholesale prices of indigenous sugar as well as imported sugar has been arrested and the prices have remained at reasonable levels.

(c) and (d). The sale of imported sugar by Food Corporation of India is in the open market through a system of auction and no sale price has been fixed for eventual sale in the retail. This is the position with regard to indigenous sugar sold by factories in the open market. However, in view of the comfortable availability of imported as well as indigenous sugar, sugar prices had ruled at reasonable levels in the open market.

Imported sugar is also subject to statutory provisions in respect of sale and stock-holding limits of sugar. The State Governments had also been advised to undertake surprise checks/raids and de-hoarding operations and to ensure that sugar licenced dealers comply with statutory provisions.

INDO-EEC Project on Fishery Development

1232. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :