

(c) whether import of sugar is proposed to be stopped; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The sugar production during the current sugar year 1986-87 aggregated to 83.92 lakh tonnes upto 22.7.1987. as against 69.11 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date last year showing an increase of 14.81 lakh tonnes

(c) and (d). The import of sugar was reported to, to bridge the gap between domestic availability and internal consumption. Further import of sugar will depend upon the future trend of sugar production, consumption and overall availability of sugar for internal consumption in the country.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Wet Wheat in Delhi and other States

2219. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the traders of Delhi and other States are buying wet wheat from Punjab;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these traders are mixing the wet wheat with the wheat of good quality for selling it on high prices;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to check it;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some State Governments have complained to Union Government about this wet wheat; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (f). The information is being collected.

[*English*]

Production of Cement

2220. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of cement in India during the last three years, year-wise, in different sectors like large, medium, small scale and tiny and the number of plants in operation in each sector;

(b) to what extent Government have achieved its objectives and goals of increasing production of cement of different grades and varieties; and

(c) the sectoral goals set and facilities and concessions granted for development of all the sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Year-wise production of cement during the last three years in different sectors was as under:

Year	Large Sector Plants		Mini cement plants including small and tiny plants	
	No. of Units	Production (in M.T)	No. of Units	Production (in M.T.)
1984-85	77	29.61	30	0.58
85-86	79	32.04	66	1.09
86-87	87	34.83	103	1.67

(b) and (c). Government has not fixed gradewise, and varietywise Cement Production Targets. Targets are fixed for cement production of all varieties and from all sectors taken together. For the current financial year a target of 42.50 million tonnes has been fixed. A target of 49 million tonnes of cement production by the terminal year of the Seventh Plan has also been fixed which is likely to be achieved.

The following facilities/concessions have been provided for the development of cement industry;

- (i) Retention price for levy cement has been increased by Rs. 24.50 per tonne with effect from 15.12.86;
- (ii) Payment of Rs. 9/-per tonne by the cement factories to Cement Regulation Account on the non-levy production of cement has been discontinued from 15 12.86;

(iii) Newer units commencing production on or after 1.4.86 will also be entitled to a rebate in excise duty at the rate of Rs. 50/- per tonne provided their production in the relevant financial year is not less than 30% of the licensed capacity (as may be certified by the Development Commissioner for Cement Industry). The rebate will be admissible during the period 1st March, 1987 to 31st March, 1990;

(iv) There are no price and distribution controls on the production of Mini Cement Plants upto capacity of 300 M.T. per day and hence there is no liability for supply of cement by these plants;

(v) The levy quota of large scale units had been progressively reduced and the present levy obligation is as under:—

(a)	New cement Units commencing production on or after 1.4.86	15% of actual production
(b)	Cement units which had commenced production between 1.1.82 to 31.3.86	20% of actual production
(c)	Units declared sick and expansions materialising after 1.1.82	30% of actual production

(d) All other units viz. those in production prior to 1.1.82

50% of actual production

(vi) To encourage the setting up of the captive DG sets, appropriate relief is allowed in fixing the levy quota to neutralise additional cost involved in generation of power from the captive DG sets installed after 1.1.82

[*Translation*]

Rise in Prices of Edible Oils

2222. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep rise in the prices of edible oils recently;

(b) if so, the prices of groundnut oil, mustard oil and coconut oil in the first week of July, 1987;

(c) the prices of these oils in the corresponding month of previous two years, and

(d) the efforts made by Government to bring down their prices?

Utilisation of HBJ Pipeline gas

2221. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any change in the allocation of H.B.J. Pipeline gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) how the gas which will remain utilised is proposed to be used; and

(d) what will be the effect of this change on the viability of the H.B.J. project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (d). As delays are indicated in the commissioning of some of the downstream projects, efforts are being made to locate additional consumers so as to utilise the gas to be transported through the HBJ Pipeline to the maximum possible extent.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT). (a) There has been a rising trend in the prices of edible oils

(b) and (c). The wholesale prices of groundnut oil, mustard oil and coconut oil in the first week of July, 1987, July, 1986 and July, 1985 are as under—

(Rs per tonne)

Commodity/Centre	Prices as on		
	3 7.87	4.7.86	5.7.85
1	2	3	4
GROUNDNUT OIL			
Bombay	25844	19968	15028
Madras	25500	18700	13100
Rajkot	23800	18250	14850