

Production of Rasika

7339. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production capacity of "Rasika" plants of Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. was increased in April, 1986;

(b) if so, the reason for not utilising the full capacity in the production of "Rasika" since then;

(c) whether it is a fact that the present management was not interested in increasing the production of "Rasika", particularly during this summer season;

(d) the number of days on which the production in the "Rasika" units of Modern Food Industries was disrupted during the last six months;

(e) the estimated loss suffered on this account; and

(f) whether Government have enquired into the whole matter and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L.BAITHA) : (a) to (c). Expansion of production capacity of the fruit juice bottling plant of Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. at Delhi is on hand. The expanded capacity is expected to be commissioned by the end of April, 1988. The existing capacity is been utilised almost to the full extent during the summer season.

(d) and (f). The total break down time during the last six month was around 40 hours. No loss was suffered on account of the minor break-downs and no enquiry was therefore called for.

Distribution of Palm Oil in A.P.

7340. SHRI P. PENCHALLAIH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report regarding the malpractices in the distribution of palm and other edible oils meant for public Distribution System in Andhra Pradesh and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L.BAITHA) : (a) One allegation regarding disproportionate distribution of essential commodities including imported Palmolein in the districts of Andhra Pradesh was received.

(b) The State Government was informed since the internal distribution of essential commodities is the responsibility of the State Government.

Setting up of Mini Steel Plants in Karnataka

7341. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received proposals to set up mini steel plants in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, when such plants are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government received two proposals during the last three years to set up mini-steel plants in

Karnataka. These were rejected because they were not supported by assurance of availability of adequate power from the State Government.

[*Translation*]

Preference for Import of Sunflower Oil by S.T.C.

7342. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has decided to import sunflower oil in place of palmolein and palm Oil for public consumption in the country;

(b) if so, whether any deficiency has been found in the Palmolein and Palm Oil ; and

(c) if not, the justification of importing any other edible oil in place of Palmolein and Palm Oil?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L.BAITHA) : (a) The State Trading Corporation of India have contracted to import Sunflower Oil besides Palmolein, Palm Oil etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The State Trading Corporation of India imports various edible oils from time to time depending on, amongst other things, availability and international prices.

[*English*]

Import of Sunflower Oil

7343. DR. B.L.SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation is importing crude sunflower oil after a gap of four years, if so, the total quantity to be imported and the country of its import;

(b) the details of arrangements made for its refining, packing and distribution through the public Distribution System.

(c) whether sunflower oil, is generally not favoured by consumers despite its having good cooking properties; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the STC to alter the proportion of various oils in the aggregate imports of edible oils during the year 1988-89, taking into account the requirements of the vanasapti industry and public distribution system and the extent to which the quantity to be imported, particularly the soybean will be reduced?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L.BAITHA) : (a) The State Trading Corporation have contracted to import sunflower seed oil. The total quantity to be imported is decided depending upon relative prices of oils in the international market. As per terms of contract, origin of oil is supplier's option. However usually the countries of origin of sunflower seed oil are Argentina/USA /Europe.

(b) The policy of the Government is to get imported Edible oils refined through public Sector Undertakings and Cooperatives refineries. If more refining capacity is required other refineries are also utilized. The arrangements have been made accordingly.

(c) No such reports have come to the knowledge of the Government

(d) It is too early to decide the estimates of the aggregate plan of imports for the oils year 1988-89 and the quantity of particular