

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) The quantity of edible

oils imported through State Trading Corporation, during the first six months of this year, month-wise, is given below :

Month	Quantity imported (MTS)*
January, 1985	71,172
February, 1985	1,00,370
March, 1985	83,800
April, 1985	54,468
May, 1985	96,850
June, 1985	1,51,369
Total :	5,58,029

\*These figures are approximate.

(b) The quantity of edible oils distributed to States/Union Territories during the first six months of the year is 3,40,103 MTs.

(c) The allocation of imported edible oils to the State Governments/Union Territories is made by the Central Government from month to month on the basis of demand, consumption pattern, festival season, availability of indigenous edible oils in the States/Union Territories or region, availability of stocks with State Trading Corporation and other relevant factors including the pace of lifting of edible oils allocated earlier to the States.

(d) The total quantity of imported edible oils (RBD Palmolein) allocated to Gujarat during first six months of the year is 26,500 MTs.

#### Committee on Inland Fisheries

3874. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have constituted a committee of official and non-official members to decide common national policy and legal provisions to be implemented by States for encouraging the Inland fisheries ;

(b) if so, whether the said committee has submitted its report to Government ;

(c) if so, details thereof ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to provide adequate financial assistance to Maharashtra State for the development of fisheries in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Committee is yet to submit the report in this regard. Meanwhile the State Governments and Union Territories have been requested to communicate the suggestions for the amendment of Indian Fisheries Act, 1897.

(d) To develop fisheries in Maharashtra the following Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes are operating to provide adequate financial assistance to the State :

(i) Fish Farmer Development Agency Programme ;

- (ii) National Fish Seed Programme ;
- (iii) Development of Inland Fishery Statistics ;
- (iv) Development of Brackish Water Fish Farming ;
- (v) Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Active fishermen ;
- (vi) Techno-socio-economic survey of Fishermen Community ;
- (vii) Development of Fishing Harbours at minor ports.

#### Plantation Workers in the Country

3875. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of plantation workers in the country ;

(b) whether more than 55 per cent of the jobs in the plantation sector are held by women workers ;

(c) whether there is no provision to check occupational diseases among the plantation workers ; and

(d) if so, the details of specific steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The average daily employment in plantations in 10 States/ Union Territories which submit returns, is 9,96,918, in the year 1983.

(b) Information is being collected.

(c) and (d). Section 17 of the Plantation Labour Act empowers the State Governments to make Rules so that in every plantation the employer shall provide the workers with such number and type of umbrellas, blankets, rain-coats or other like amenities for the protection of workers from rain or cold. The Central

Government had advised the State Governments to consider framing Rules under item (1) of Sub-Section (2) of Section 43 of the Act, on all aspects connected with health hazards arising out of spraying and use of insecticides and Model Rules on this prepared by the DG FASLI Organisation had been circulated to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

#### Development of Small and Medium Towns during Sixth Plan

3876. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of small and medium towns taken up under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns during Sixth Five Year Plan ;

(b) the amount sanctioned by Government for the development of these towns and amount released to the States so far ; and

(c) whether Government propose to formulate policies as to how to maintain the assets created under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Programme ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Under the centrally sponsored scheme for the integrated development of small and medium towns 235 towns have been taken up for development during the sixth five year plan. A sum of Rs. 63.57 crores has been released as central loan assistance for items, including low cost sanitation, under the scheme. Details of towns approved and funds released are enclosed in the annexure laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT/1378/85].

(c) According to the guidelines of the scheme the State Government local bodies are to identify the agencies for proper maintenance and operation of assets and facilities under the scheme.