

(d) whether any other companies were caught for similar offences for adulterating the edible oils, ghee and mustard oil etc. till 31 March, 1985; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). There was no instance of adulteration of vanaspati with beef tallow by Jain Shud Vanaspati, Ghaziabad. But the C.B.I. had investigated against the company for unauthorised import of beef tallow. Based on the investigation of C.B.I a case was launched in the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi which was challenged by the firm in the Delhi High Court, who quashed the complaint. A Special leave Petition has been filed in the Supreme Court on 8.7.1985.

The firm is debarred from receiving import licences/release orders, importation of goods and allotment of imported goods through STC/MMTC or any other similar agency.

(d) and (e). Cases have been registered by the C.B.I. against M/s. Bhatinda Banaspati and Chemical Mills Pvt. Ltd., Bhatinda; M/s. Jetamal Satyanarain, Upper Bazar, Ranchi; and M/s. Jhandu Ram Jogi Ram, Anaj Mandi, Narwana Distt. Jind (Haryana).

Foreign Vessels in Kerala Coasts

4029. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have granted charter permits or letters of intent to various companies to bring foreign chartered fishing boats to exploit Kerala Coasts;

(b) if so, the number of foreign chartered boats presently fishing off Kerala Coast;

(c) the number of Chartered foreign boats which will eventually fish off the Kerala Coast;

(d) steps Government have taken to project the Kerala fishermen; and

(e) the details of safeguards taken already?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) to (e). Subject to the limitations prescribed in the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels), Rules 1982 as amended in April, 1985 the area of operation of foreign chartered vessels is in the high seas within the Exclusive Economic Zone of India. As per the Rules foreign chartered fishing vessels are required to operate beyond 24 nautical miles on the west coast and areas between Nizamapatnam to Paradeep on the east coast; beyond 12 nautical miles between Nizamapatnam and Pt. Calimere. In addition some pockets off the Gujarat-Maharashtra Coast, South West of Kerala and areas north of Paradeep including the Sand Heads have been excluded from the area of operation of chartered vessels. Violation of the area of operation is punishable under the MZI Act, 1981 which provides for deterrent punishment such as imprisonment of crew, fines and confiscation of vessels

The number of chartered foreign fishing vessels operating in the Exclusive Economic Zone is 6 with Madras as the base of operation.

Location of Agro-Climatic Regions for Oil Palm Cultivation

4030. **DR. K.G. ADIYODI :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been made to locate suitable agro-climatic regions for oil palm cultivation in India;

(b) whether any proposal is pending