

(b) factors responsible for steep rise in the prices of building materials; and

(c) measures if any, taken to bring down the prices to a reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) The prices of each building material as on July 31, 1979, and April 30, 1980, are not available. However, a statement showing the prices of building materials as on 28th July, 1979 and 26th April, 1980 is prepared and enclosed.

(b) and (c). This Ministry has no control over the prices of building materials. However, it may be stated that the present steep rise is partly sympathetic to general price rise and partly on account of shortfall in production as compared to the demand for these materials. The National Buildings Organisation have been advocating the use of substitute cheap building materials for housing like secondary species of timber, deformed bars, hydrated lime and clay pozzolana and asphaltic corrugated sheets.

#### Statement

*Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India*  
(Base 1970-71 = 100)

*For Building Materials*

Sl. No.	Name of Commodity	Week ended 28th July, 1979	Week ended 26th April, 1980
1.	Bricks . . .	350.0	418.5
2.	Cement . . .	229.2	233.4
3.	Sheet Glass . . .	359.2	342.4
4.	Sanitary Ware	260.0	302.0
5.	Logs & Timber.	408.2	411.5
6.	Paints & Varnishes . . .	228.9	258.7
7.	Bars & Rods . . .	315.1	315.1

#### Agreement between National Dairy Development Corporation and US Cooperative League

940. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions attached with the agreement entered into by National Dairy Development Corporation with US Cooperative League regarding edible oil supply as gift;

(b) the amount so far generated year-wise through the sale of the gifted oils;

(c) the expenditure incurred in implementation of this scheme; and

(d) what concrete results have been achieved to fulfil the objective and the details of objective?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO):

(a) Under the Project formulated by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) for Restructuring Edible Oil and Oilseed Production and Marketing, the Board will receive 1,60,000 tonnes vegetable oil, as a gift, from the Cooperative League of USA (CLUSA) during a period of 8 years, beginning from 1979-80.

A statement indicating the conditions attached with the aforesaid agreement is enclosed.

(b) The gift oils started arriving in June, 1979 and its marketing started in July, 1979. The funds generated till May 15, 1980 are Rs. 21.37 crores.

(c) The expenditure incurred on the implementation of the scheme till May 15, 1980 is Rs. 204 crores.

(d) The object of the imports under the Project is to generate funds by the sale of gifted oil and to utilise the funds, thus generated, for the development of oil seeds produc-

tion in the country. For this purpose, production, processing and marketing of oilseeds would be co-ordinated by organising a federation of oilseeds growers cooperatives. In this manner, the cultivators would be helped in adopting production techniques which would decrease the vulnerability of the oilseed crops to climatic variations while also raising yields and offering year to year price stability thereby increasing growers income. The results achieved so far are:—

- (i) A Cooperative Oilseeds Growers' Federation each in the State of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh has been formed and constitution of similar Federations in the States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are under way.
- (ii) Action has been initiated for the establishment of processing facilities.
- (iii) Market research and Continuing Information Scheme (CIS) studies have been taken up.

#### *Statement*

*Conditions attached with the agreement entered into by the National Dairy Development Board with the Cooperative League of USA for the import of edible oil supply.*

- (i) The funds to be generated by the sale of the imported gift oil, will be utilised by the NDDB for the implementation of their said project on edible oil and oilseed which, *inter alia* aims at increasing production of oilseeds and improving returns to the farmers through better marketing, processing etc. by organising growers' cooperatives.
- (ii) No duties, tolls or taxes on the commodities, supplies or

equipment supplied by CLUSA to NDDB under the project, will be levied in the light of the existing Indo-US Agreement (of 5th December, 1968).

- (iii) The programme administration costs incurred by CLUSA will include utilising a portion of the rupees generated by the sale of the gifted commodities to US dollars through the Reserve Bank of India. This expenditure, in any given year, will in no event exceed 1 per cent of the landed value of the gifted commodities received by the NDDB in that year.
- (iv) The expatriate personnel for this project will be provided tax and duty concessions as already granted to existing CLUSA expatriate personnel in India.
- (v) The generated funds shall not, however, be used for providing direct subsidy of vegetable oil market prices.

#### **Plans for expansion of cane crushing capacity**

941. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the Government plans for expansion of cane crushing capacity in the country;
- (b) whether the cooperative sector is being given preference for this;
- (c) if so, how much new capacity in this sector is planned;
- (d) if not, the reasons thereof; and
- (e) how much new capacity is planned for private and State sectors?