

Shortage of Rapeseed Oil, Palm Oil and Wheat at Ration Shops in Delhi

2460. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have acknowledged the shortage recently in the States as well as in the capital of rapeseed oil and RED palm oil at the ration shops;

(b) if so, whether in the case of wheat delay has been noticed at the time of its distribution by ration shops to the consumers; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to distribute the above items in time?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI MOHAMMAD USMAN ARIF): (a) Taking the indigenous oils in the open market and imported edible oils supplied through public distribution system together, the overall availability of edible oils in the States as well as in the capital is, by and large, satisfactory. However, the possibility of temporary localised shortages cannot be ruled out

(b) and (c). Allotments of food-grains including wheat for the public distribution system are made on monthly basis to the States and Union Territories including Delhi, keeping in view the overall availability of stocks, availability in the local markets, relative needs of various States and such other relevant factors. While there is no delay in making these allotments, the possibility of occasional delay at the State level in actually reaching the supplies to different areas cannot be ruled out.

Production and Consumption of edible oil

2461. SHRI RASA BEHARI BEHRA:

SHRI RAMA KRISHNA MORE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have Government taken for enhancing production of oil seeds to meet the required demand of the country;

(b) the per capita consumption of edible oil in India;

(c) whether it is a fact that it is lowest in the world;

(d) the projects being implemented by Government for more production of oil from forest resources; and

(e) the States which have implemented these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The following steps have been taken for enhancing production of oilseeds:—

1. Intensive programme for development of oilseeds under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The Scheme aims at demonstrations on farmers fields, strengthening of seed production and distribution arrangements, expansion of plant protection measure and training for farmers and extension workers.
2. Launching of special projects on production of groundnut in Saurashtra region of Gujarat and Soyabean in Madhya Pradesh.

3. Increase in allocation for development of oilseeds during the Sixth Plan to Rs. 65 crores against Rs. 14 crores in Fifth Plan.
4. Extension of irrigated areas under oilseed crops from 8 lakh hectares in 1979-80 to 14 lakh hectares by 1984-85.
5. Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crops namely soyabean and sunflower.
6. Increase in area under short duration varieties oilseeds through catch cropping and inter-cropping.
7. Intensification of research efforts.
8. Fixation of minimum support price to ensure that the farmers receive adequate prices for their produce.

(b) and (c). The per capita consumption of edible oils, including vanaspati, as per the Report of Inter-Ministerial Study Group constituted by the Government to formulate Long Term Edible Oils Plan is of the order of 5.2 kg. per annum. This is one of the lowest in the world.

(d) and (e). A Scheme for development of oilseeds and oils of tree and elopment has been included in the Sixth Five Year Plan with a total outlay of Rs. 2 crores. The project aims at maximum collection of salseeds and processing through development of infrastructural facilities like construction of storage godowns, laying of roads to inaccessible areas, purchase of vehicles, etc. To begin with, three States viz., Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh which have proliferation of salseeds, have been identified. The project submitted by the Orissa Government is under active consideration of the Government.

Scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers

2463. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any schemes for assisting the small and marginal farmers have been submitted by Government of Madhya Pradesh for implementation during 1982-83;

(b) if so, what are the details and cost thereof; and

(c) whether the same have been approved by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) to (c). The main programme of assistance to the small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and non-agricultural labourers implemented by this Ministry is the Integrated Rural Development Programme. This is a sixth five year plan scheme being implemented in all State/Union Territories including Madhya Pradesh and would continue during the year 1982-83. All the blocks in Madhya Pradesh are covered under IRD Programme for which an allocation of Rs. 8.00 lakhs per block will be available during 1982-83. This amount is to be shared between the Centre and State on 50:50 basis. Under the scheme assistance is provided to the target group to take up viable economic activities in order to improve their economic status. Subsidy is provided on the capital cost at the rate of 25 per cent to small farmers, 33-1/3 per cent to marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans. For tribal participants, subsidy is 50 per cent. The target is to cover 600 families per annum per block.

No other scheme appears to have been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh by the Ministry of Rural Development.