

stores of all Societies at all of their stores; and

(d) why should tinned ghee in small packs be not banned till the situation improves?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Within the available stocks of essential commodities, the Central Government arranges for an equitable allocation of these commodities as between various States/Union Territories. Out of the allocations made by the Central Government to Delhi, the Delhi Administration reallocates these commodities to fair-price shops in proportion to the units registered with each shop. By and large the supply position of items for public distribution is satisfactory in the Union Territory of Delhi, though the existence of temporary and localised shortages in any commodity cannot be ruled out.

On an average, entitlement of wheat of each fair-price shop on the basis of 4000 units works out to 217 Quintals per month. As against this, these fair-price shops are given wheat on an average to the extent of 140 quintals each. About 20 per cent of the food card holders do not lift their quota of wheat. The net deficiency has been to the extent of 25 per cent of the entitlement based on the old quota which has since been revised. Wheat supplied through the Public Distribution System is generally of good quality, and any complaints about quality are taken up with Food Corporation of India.

(c) Branch stores of all cooperative societies in Delhi having retail edible oil licences are selling vanaspati ghee in loose.

(d) Tinned vanaspati ghee in small packs has gained consumer acceptability and a ban would not be welcomed by the consumers at large. Necessary regulatory and enforcement measures for sale of vanaspati in loose form at fixed price have also

been taken by Delhi Administration and a constant watch is kept on its sale.

Grievances of Senior Official of Ministry of Agriculture

5689. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Ministry of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of senior officials in the Ministry of Agriculture had either sought transfers from the Department or asked for pre-mature retirement; and

(b) if so, the nature of the grievances of these officers forcing them to resort to such steps and the steps taken by Government to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortfall in consumption of Fertilizers and steps to achieve Plan target in Foodgrains

5690. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:

SHRI G. NARSIMHA

REDDY:

SHRI JAGPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent there was shortfall in the fertiliser consumption targets during 1979-80, 1980-81 and 1981-82 till date because of the hike in its prices and the resultant shortfall in the anticipated food production; and

(b) how far the declaration in the rate of fertiliser consumption is likely to fit the foodgrain target stipulated in the Sixth Plan and what steps are contemplated by Government to ensure achievement of the Plan target to the maximum?