

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF) : (a) The Sixth Plan target is coverage of 2.31 lakhs identified problem villages with at least one source of safe potable water available throughout the year. All efforts are being made to achieve this target.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Provision of drinking water is a State subject. The Central Govt, supplements the efforts of the State Govts. by giving grants-in-aid under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. Rs. 600 crores have been earmarked under this programme during the Sixth Plan. The allocation over the years are as below :

Years	Allocation (Rs. in crores)
1980-81	100
1981-82	110
1982-83	151.50
1983-84	199.60
	+ 75.00 under the new incentive scheme.

The funds allocated for 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83 have more or less been utilised in full. During the current year, Rs. 121.43 crores have been released so far in addition to the first instalment of Rs. 17.45 crores released under the new incentive scheme.

#### Import of Edible Oils

952. SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of palm palmolein, soyabean and rapeseed oils imported in the period between July and September this year; and

(b) the price per tonne for each of the above edible oils ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) and (b) The

edible oils imported by S. T. C. between July and September, 1983 and the average price paid are given below :

Name of oil	Quantity imported between July and Sept.83 (in lakh tonnes)	Average price paid Rs. per MT.
1. Soyabean Oil	1.18	43000
2. Neutralised Palm Oil	0.22	4250
3. Rapeseed Oil	0.44	4400
4. RBD Palm Oil	0.73	4300
5. RBD Palmolein	0.93	4500

#### Increase In Wholesale Prices Of Essential Commodities

953. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the wholesale prices of essential commodities have been continuously increasing for the last few months; and

(b) if so, the details of variation of price indices month wise during the current year and how does it compare with that for the same period during the last year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) There has been some rise in the prices of essential commodities in recent months. However, in the past few weeks, the prices of some essential commodities are showing a softening trend.

(b) The required information is furnished in the statements I and II. laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in the Library See No. LT-7074/83*]

#### Assistance To Kerala To Meet The Impact Of Drought Condition

954. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :