

**Bringing of more items under the
Public Distribution System**

1197. SHRI MADHAVRAO
SCINDIA :
SHRI PIYUSH TIRKI :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have lately been considering the question of bringing more consumer items under the Public Distribution Scheme ;

(b) if so, what decision has been taken in this regard ; and

(c) what steps have been taken in pursuance thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (DR. M. S. SANJEEVI RAO) : (a) to (c) The Central Government is already supplying seven essential commodities, namely, wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils, soft coke, kerosene and controlled cloth to the State/Union Territories for distribution under the Public Distribution System. While it has not decided to add any other commodity, the States/Union Territories are being advised from time to time to add other commodities of mass consumption for distribution through Public Distribution System, for which they can make arrangement on their own. Many States/Union Territories have been supplying additional items of consumer goods through Public Distribution System. Recently, the Central Government had held discussions with the manufacturers of toilet soap, razor blades, torch cells, matches and cycle tyres and tubes, who have agreed to supply these commodities to the States or agencies nominated by them in this behalf, at the rates they supply to their wholesale distributors, for sale of such products through fair price shops. The States/Union Territory Administrations have been advised to take advantage of this arrangement.

कृषि पर श्वेत पत्र

1198. श्री रामलाल राही : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कुछ राष्ट्रीय नेताओं से कृषि उत्पादन और अनुसंधान, पशु प्रजनन और बाढ़ नियंत्रण के बारे में किए गए प्रयासों की असफलता पर श्वेत पत्र निकालने की मांग की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार इस बारे में श्वेत पत्र कब निकालेगी;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

कृषि मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाना) : (क) से (ग) हाल ही में कुछ समाचार पत्रों में ऐसी मांग छपी है। भारतीय कृषि द्वारा प्रदर्शित समुत्थान शक्ति, क्षमता तथा प्रगति को देखते हुए, जिसका कि भारत तथा विदेश में व्यापक रूप से स्वागत किया गया है, इस सम्बन्ध में श्वेत-पत्र जारी करने का प्रश्न ही नहीं होता।

Import of Sugar

1199. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

SHRI K.A. RAJAN :

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA:

Will the the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finally decided about the quantum of sugar that will have to be imported during 1984 ;

(b) whether similarly the targets of export of sugar during 1984 have also been fixed for ; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries from where India propose to import indicating the cost per ton of sugar and the cost of export per ton fixed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (DR M. S. SANJEEVI RAO) : (a) and (b) Government have finalised contracts for the import of about 3.54 lakh tonnes of sugar for shipment by the sellers upto October, 1984. The quantum of import of sugar is decided from time to time depending on the situation in the domestic and international market. As regards sugar export, under the International Sugar Agreement, 1977 India has been allocated a quota of 6.5 lakh tonnes of sugar for export during 1984. As against this, the quantity exported upto 24-7-1984 is 2.51 lakh tonnes.

(c) The purchases have been made from international traders. Therefore, the country-wise particulars are not known. The cost per tonne varies depending on the months of delivery. However, the average price comes to about US \$ 190 per tonne C & FFO.

Levy sugar for export has been procured at the notified ex-factory prices.

Report of Ottawa based International Development Research Centre Re. Killing effect of Pesticides

1200. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to a report of the Ottawa based International Development Research Centre (IDRC) pesticides are proving to be greater killers than endemic diseases in the developing countries ;

(b) whether his Ministry's experts have studied this Report and if so, what is their reaction to the pesticide poisoning becoming the most pervasive occupational hazard in the developing nations ; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take to check the serious nature of pesticide poisoning by banning the import and use of these death-dealing chemicals which tend to wipe out human lives along with the pests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The IDRC (International Development Research Centre) Reports Volume 12 Number 3—October, 1983 make a mention that pesticides have overtaken endemic diseases as a cause of death in some countries, according to Dr. Wai-On-Phoon of Singapore University.

(b) The officers concerned have studied the Reports and are of the view that if the pesticides, which are allowed to be used in a country after proper scrutiny of their bio-efficacy and toxicity, are handled in a proper and prescribed manner, during the manufacture, transport and use, they are not likely to pose occupational hazards.

(c) In India, only those pesticides are allowed to be imported/manufactured and used which are registered by the Registration Committee, constituted under Insecticides Act, 1968 after satisfying itself regarding the efficacy of the insecticide and its safety to human beings and animals. The Insecticides Rules, 1971 also contain provisions for printing instructions on the labels and leaflets for safe handling and use of pesticides. The packing of every insecticide shall include a leaflet containing, among other things, the details of particulars regarding the chemicals harmful to human beings, animals and wild life, warning and cautionary statements, including the symptoms of