

Import of Bulk Milk Vending Machines

9333. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he approved import of bulk milk vending machines in spite of UNICEF advice;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) whether these machines are meant for labour-saving devices; and if so, whether introduction of such machines will result in retrenchment of the existing staff in Delhi Milk Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHIR SINGH) (a) and (b). Although UNICEF had originally raised doubts about the efficacy of the bulk milk vending machines, but after discussions with National Dairy Development Board, they have agreed that this bulk milk distribution system is suited to Indian conditions provided the deficiencies noticed in their operation are removed to make the equipment technically sufficiently sound. Government have accordingly, decided to import about 300 bulk milk vending machines, including about 100 to be obtained as assistance from UNICEF, subject to rectification of deficiencies. This decision has been taken in the interest of quick and massive expansion of milk distribution facilities in addition to the existing bottle supply, which will continue. The supply of milk through bulk milk vending machines will reduce costs involved in bottling and will also cut down the transport cost. The milk will be available for longer periods during the day as compared to the limited hours of supply from milk distribution depots in the mornings and evenings and will reduce long queues. The quality of milk supplied through bulk milk vending machines will be better as compared to the bottled milk because it would be possible to maintain the temperature of the milk supplied through bulk vending machines at 5°C. The National Dairy Development Board visualises

that within a year or so of these bulk vending machines being installed, indigenous manufacture will be able to fill the country's needs for such equipment.

(c) The introduction of bulk milk vending machines is not intended as a labour-saving device, but is being resorted to on account of the various advantages as enumerated above. This is an additional facility and would neither affect the present activities of Delhi Milk Scheme nor would it result in any retrenchment of the existing staff of D.M.S.

Mulafis produced from Sugarcane, its Control and Market Rate

9334. SHRI GUNDA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of Mulafis produced from the sugarcane all over the country (State-wise);

(b) what is the control rate of it, fixed by the Government in each State;

(c) what is the market rate prevailing in each State; and

(d) what steps Government are contemplating to fix the control rate and enforce it strictly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) 'Mulafis' appears to be a misprint for the word 'Molasses'. The relevant information as obtained from the Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals concerned with this subject is as under:—

Name of State	Estimated production of Molasses during 1971-72 (in '000 tonnes)
1	2
1. U.P.	307.00
2. Bihar	55.50
3. West Bengal	0.37

1	2
4. Assam	1.85
5. Haryana	26.65
6. Punjab	11.50
7. Rajasthan	3.00
8. Madhya Pradesh	7.75
9. Orissa	2.60
10. Andhra Pradesh	112.00
11. Gujarat	37.00
12. Maharashtra	370.00
13. Mysore	92.50
14. Kerala	6.00
15. Tamil Nadu	111.00
16. Pondicherry	8.50

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government Health Scheme is primarily intended for the Central Government employees and members of their families. It would not, therefore, be possible to extend the Scheme to the public in general. Besides, provision of medical facilities is one of the primary functions of the State Governments.

Association of Business House in Equity and management of Indian Potash Limited

(b) The price of molasses is statutorily controlled under Molasses Control (Amendment) Order, 1972, which is applicable in all the States except Bihar, Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, U.P. and West Bengal which have their own legislations in this regard. The price of various grades of molasses under Molasses Control (Amendment) Order, 1972 are as under:—

Grade of Molasses	Price
Grade I	Re. 1.00 per 100 Kgs.
Grade II	Re. 0.80 per 100 Kgs.
Grade III	Re. 0.60 per 100 Kgs.

9336. **SHRI S. C. SAMANTA:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Co-operation and National Cooperative Development Corporation are in favour or Association of large business houses like Parry, Rallis and Shaw Wallace in the equity and management of Indian Potash Limited;

(b) whether salaries of top officers if Indian Potash are much more than of the Secretaries to the Union Government; and

(c) Molasses is required to be sold only at controlled rates.

(d) The Molasses Controllers in the States keep a watch on the transactions made.

C.G.H.S. for General Public

9335. **SHRI S. C. SAMANTA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.G.H.S. after functioning for all these years has proved to be a success; and

(b) if so, the reasons for its not being extended for the benefit of the general public?

(c) whether N.C.D.C. alone can handle import and trading in Potash?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) No, Sir. The Indian Potash Limited, formerly known as Indian Potash Supply Agency was earlier owned by Private companies. In order to make it fully responsive to the needs of the farmers and to promote the use of Potash, its share-capital structure was reorganised in 1970-71 and the majority in the share holdings passed from the Private Sector units to Co-operative marketing organisations and Public Sector Units. Department of Co-operation and National Co-operative Development Corporation are in favour of Co-operative institutions having an absolute majority in