basic staffing pattern and programme. Certain variations have, however, been allowed to suit special local conditions and needs, based mainly on geographical, climatic, ecological and administrative factors.

Use of Soya Bean oil in the manufacture of Vanaspati

1183. Shri R. S. Pandey: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Vanaspati industry has made representations for increasing the percentage of soya bean oil in their manufacture; and
- (b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a): Yes, Sir,

(b) The maximum limit of 20 per cent originally fixed for incorporation of soya bean oil in Vanaspati has been raised to 50%.

Colourisation of Vanaspati

Shri R. S. Pandey:

Shri Bagri:

Dr. Mahadeva Prasad;

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the progress made in the experiments conducted for the colourisation of vanaspati?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): The Committee of Experts appointed for intensifying researches for finding out a suitable colour for Vanaspati has completed its work and submitted its report. The same is under examination.

Prices of Groundnut and Groundnut oil

1185, Shri R. S. Pandey: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the causes for the present high

prices of groundnut and groundnut oil; and

(b) the action taken to bring them down?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah-nawax Khan): (a) The main causes for the present high prices of ground-nut and groundnut oil are the general increase in consumption requirements and uncertain prospects of the new crop.

(b) The steps taken to bring prices down include regulation of forward trading in groundnut and oil; restrictions on exports; restrictions on use of edible oils for industrial purposes and non-edible uses; restrictions on bank credit; imports of soya bean oil. tallow and mustard seed.

Crash of Helicopter in Ferosepore District (Punjab)

1186. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a heli-copter which was spraying insecticides over cotton fields in Kheowali Village in Ferozepore District (Punjab) crashed on the 17th August, 1965; and
 - (b) if so, the causes thereof?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The accident is under investigation

Cattle Insurance

| Shri S. C. Samanta: | Shri Rameshwar Tantia: | Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 222 on the 23rd February, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the pilot model scheme on cattle insurance has since been considered;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) when it is likely to be implemented?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). The Pilot Model Scheme on Cattle Insurance is still under consideration of the Government and is proposed to be included in the 4th Five Year Plan

12 hrs.

RE: MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT AND CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

FOOD SITUATION IN IMPHAL AND FIRING THERE-contd.

Mr. Speaker: Now, I shall take up the adjournment motion which was held over yesterday. The hon. Home Minister said that he would make a statement.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): As desired by hon. Members, I would like to make a statement. The Food Minister is also here, but I may make a statement about the position very briefly.

Mr. Speaker: Any one of the two Ministers might make the statement.

Shri Nanda: I shall give the basic facts of the situation. If there is anything more, the hon. Food Minister may supplement that information.

Manipur is generally surplus in rice. It exports to the neighbouring areas of Assam a small quantity of 2000 tonnes of rice under normal conditions. This year the production of rice in Manipur was good. As compared to a figure of 1,09,000 tonnes of rice produced in Manipur in 1963-64, the production in 1964-65 amounted to 1,11,000 tonnes. According to received from the latest reports Manipur, the the prospects of good. coming crop are also This was the situation basica-

lly, and till May there was no blem in regard to rice supply. Manipur Administration had asked for some additional supply, and it was presumed that it was intended for the purpose of laying by of sto-Later on, the information was received that they had undertaken a commitment for rationing in the town on a large scale, and that was practically for the whole of the population, and it was ration on a fairly high scale. Since they have asked for more supply, it is being made available to them from various places. This is the position. If hon Members want any further information, they may ask us for such information.

Mr. Speaker: The allegation made is that the Government had failed to supply the quantity that had been asked for, and, therefore, the situation has arisen....

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): Generally, there should be no question of supply to Manipur at all because it is a surplus State, and a State cannot be making a demand on the Central Government in spite of its being in a surplus position and saynig that they should be delivered so many tonnes But still having taken into of rice. account the demand made, that is, the fact that 2.500 tonnes were asked for in May, we are making available to them these 2,500 tonnes. In addition to that, they said that they wanted a little more, and we are moving that quantity also.

We have to look into the other question how a surplus State has bocome a State which requires so much of additional quantity of rice from us. But, in spite of that, having taken into account the situation we are moving the necessary quantity. Therefore, there is no question of the Central Government failing to supply those quantities.

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty (Barrackpore): May we ask one or two questions for clarification?