

**Prices of Vanaspati**

1348. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**  
**Shri Ramchandra Mallick:**  
**Shri Sudhansu Das:**

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of Vanaspati have recently been fixed down and if so, the extent of reduction and how the revised prices compare with those at the beginning of this year and 1965;

(b) the percentage increase in prices since January, 1965; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce the prices further; and

(d) the main reasons for the increase in prices?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) and (b). Prices of vanaspati were reduced on 1st October, 1966 and again on 1st November, 1966. A statement showing the extent of reduction and comparing the prices as on 1st November, 1966 with those at the beginning of 1966 and 1965 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7314/66].

(c) and (d). Prices of vanaspati rise or fall with the prices of groundnut oil from which it is manufactured. This accounts for the increase in vanaspati prices since January 1965 and the reductions in October and November, 1966.

Import of cheaper oils from the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. for use in vanaspati manufacture has been arranged. Efforts are also being made for maximizing production of edible oils indigenously.

**Development of Kumara Kom as Tourist Centre in Kerala**

1349. **Shri Maniyangadan:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received for the development of Kumara Kom in Kottayam District, Kerala as a tourist centre; and

(b) whether any assessment has been made regarding the potential of the place as a tourist centre?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received.

(b) No, Sir.

**Cochin Port**

1350. **Shri Maniyangadan:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steamers scheduled to call at Cochin Port have been directed to other ports;

(b) whether ships have cancelled their schedule of calling at the Cochin Port;

(c) if so, how many cancellations have occurred during the years 1965 and 1966;

(d) whether passenger ships have recently suspended their scheduled calls to and from Cochin;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) steps taken to improve the conditions?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) There have been a few cases this year of vessels originally scheduled to call at Cochin not doing so.

(b) and (c). The Cochin Port Trust has reported that they have no information of cancellation of schedules of calling at Cochin Port.

(d) No. Actually there has been no regular passenger traffic at Cochin Port since 1963.

(e) As Bombay is well connected with other places in India by air and surface routes, it has been more convenient for passenger liners to touch at Bombay instead of Cochin. Also they get more passengers from Bombay. The facilities for embarking and disembarking of passengers at Cochin have also been held to be somewhat inadequate.

(f) The question of providing facilities at Cochin for the embarking and disembarking of passengers with a view to attract some of the passenger vessels to call at the Port is under consideration by the Port Trust.

#### **Kerala Veterinary Practitioners Bill**

**1351. Shri Mohammed Koya:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Live-stock Inspectors of Kerala have represented to him to allow them to treat minor ailments and to amend the Kerala Veterinary Practitioners Bill accordingly;

(b) whether the request has been considered by the Government; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde):** (a) Yes. A representation from the Livestock Assistants Association, Kerala was received by the Government of India.

(b) and (c). The request has been examined by the State Government of Kerala and has not been found acceptable as the Livestock Inspectors and Assistants do not possess the requisite qualifications for registration and cannot be accorded a status equivalent to Veterinary Surgeons. However, the possibility of according a 'B' class registration to the Livestock Assistants

as done in the case of certain medical practitioners under the Kerala Medical Practitioners Act is under consideration of the State Government.

#### **Cooperative Loan Policy**

**1352. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in some States, Cooperative loan policy is regulated by the Circulars issued by the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, while in other States, this policy is formulated by the Registrar, Cooperative Societies in consultation with the State Cooperative Banks and in some States, the State Cooperative Banks issue circulars after consulting the Registrar, Cooperative Societies; and

(b) if so, the details of such practices prevailing in each State?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra):** (a) and (b). The main features of the Crop Loan System and the policy regarding the issue of credit for production through the cooperatives as given in the Crop Loan Manual circulated to the States, are discussed in State Level Conferences convened by the State Governments in which representatives of the concerned Departments and Cooperative Institutions participate. In the light of the conclusions at these conferences detailed instructions are issued by the Cooperative Departments for implementation at the field level. Cooperative Banks also issue instructions to their member societies in regard to the various operational matters. All these instructions represent the consensus arrived at the conferences. The Central Government does not have information about the actual practices followed in different States.