

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) No Sir. The Government has not received any important complaint from State Governments about the supply of poor quality food items such as wheat, rice and sugar to consumers through fair price shops in the last few months.

(b) Government has already taken a number of steps to provide good quality wheat, rice and sugar to the consumers through fair price shops and to improve the PDS. These are as follows :

- (i) Only "A" and "B" category foodgrains (wheat and rice) conforming to Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) standards and good quality sugar conforming to Indian Sugar Standard are issued to states/UTs for distribution through fair price shops under PDS.
- (ii) The quality of the foodgrains as well as sugar issued for PDS is thoroughly checked by the officers of the State Governments or their representatives at the time of receipt from F.C.I. depots.
- (iii) Sealed samples of foodgrains from the issuing lots are supplied by FCI to State Governments so that these may be displayed at fair price shops for the benefit of consumers for comparing the quality.
- (iv) Inspection of fair price shops are conducted by the officers of the State Governments as well as Ministry of Food, Government of India to check the quality of foodgrains. Immediate remedial measures are taken with FCI or concerned State Governments wherever the quality is found not conforming to prescribed standards.
- (v) Good quality Sugar Conforming to Indian Sugar Standards is issued to State Governments and U.Ts. under P.D.S. and the quality of the sugar is ensured till the time of delivery by sugar factories.
- (vi) Periodical inspection of stocks of sugar factories is also conducted to ensure that the bags marked as standard sugar actually contain the same.
- (vii) Streamlining the Public Distribution System with its focus on the poor is under consideration of the Government.

#### Production of Edible Oil

903. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to take

some fresh measures to increase edible oil production in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :  
(a) and (b). Government has taken a number of measures to increase Edible Oil Production from indigenous sources. they relate to (i) intensification of efforts for implementation of Oilseed Production Programme area expansion through sequential cropping, intercropping, (ii) replacement of low economic crop, (iii) increase in productivity by providing various services inputs, (iv) assistance for production and distribution of seeds, (v) distribution of mini kits, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements and chemicals etc. In addition, front line and general demonstrations are conducted on farmers, fields to transfer the production technology. Fiscal incentives for increased exploitation of oils from non-conventional sources also being provided.

[Translation]

#### National Commission for Scavengers

904. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the pattern of composition of the National Commission for Scavengers alongwith the budgetary allocation made for them for the current financial year;

(b) the plan outlay for the currnet financial year for rehabilitation of scavengers;

(c) the amount released and actually utilised out of it so far in Delhi;

(d) the estimated number of scavengers in Delhi alongwith the number of scanvenger families rehabilitated so far;

(e) the total amount spent for this purpose;

(f) whether the target fixed have been achieved in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has seven members including Chairperson and Vice-Chirperson. The Budgetary allocation for the Commission during the current financial year is Rs. 70.0 lakhs.

(b) The Budget allocation for the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers for the current year is Rs. 90 crores.

(c) The Government of India has not released any Central assistance during the current year to the Government of Delhi.