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SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Edible oil is an essential part of the daily food for the common man. To check price rise of the indigenously produced edible oils, the Central Government is importing edible oils spending more than hundred crores of rupees every year in Foreign Exchange. In spite of it the price of indigenously produced edible oils is rising day by day.

It is a matter of consolation that the Central Organisation for Oil Industries (COOIT) has offered to enter into a voluntary rice control agreement with the Government to enable it to maintain the prices of edible oils at a reasonable level.

It is understood that the Oil Refiners Association of India has written to the Government requesting that if the imported oil seeds are given to the processing industries in the same manner as imported edible oils are given to the Vanaspati Units at a predetermined price, they are agreeable to enter into such an agreement.

These edible oil refining industries mostly come under small scale sector. They are facing lot of difficulties to run the industries in the absence of allocation of imported raw oils at the same rate as allocated to the Vanaspati Industries.

In such circumstances, I request the Government to give due weightage to the offer of the COOIT and their request for allocating imported oilseeds and imported raw dils at the same rate as to Vanaspati Industries so that the price of indigenously produced edible oils may be reduced.

(v) Need to have steamer service throughout the year from Calcutta to Karimgani.

SHRI SUDARSAN DAS (Karimgani): During rainy seasons the National Highway No. 44 passing through Meghalaya State and Lumding Badarpur Rail Link of N.F Railway passing through Karbi Along and North Cachar Hills, get often blocked due to landslides, etc. causing scarcity of essential commodities, rise in prices and distress to the people of Tripura, Mizoram States, Cachar and Karımgani districts of Assam and the Western part of Manipur State. To meet the situation, the new seasonal steamer service from Calcutta to Karimganj through Bangladesh operating only a few months of the year may be operated as previously throughout the year.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to see that steamer service is made possible throughout the year.

(vi) Need to set up a TV relay station at Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI (Chittoor): I request the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting to set up a TV Relay Station at Chittoor. The people of the area not able to see regional programmes as well as national programmes. Several representations have been made to the hon. Minister from the people of Chittoor. The people of Chittoor are in dark about the developments in the country. I request the hon. Minister to sanction a TV Relay Station immediately. The People of Chittoor will be grateful to the Minister for this.

(vii) Need to appoint a Judge of the Supreme Court to resolve the Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): The boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka is pending for the last thirty one years. It is likely to harm