

MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) A few letters of intent have been issued for the manufacture of potable alcohol based on non-molasses raw materials.

(b) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Thacker Committee on Pesticides

10203. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Thacker committee on Pesticides (1964) had recommended a survey to determine the effect on health from exposure to pesticides and if so, the results of follow up action taken;

(b) the details of point-wise action on other recommendations of the Committee;

(c) whether ICMR or any other central body had collected details to pesticide poisoning in the country and if so, year-wise and State-wise details thereof; and

(d) whether pesticide poisoning is proposed to be made a notifiable disease throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of Sabha.

Buffer Stock of Essential Commodities

10205. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate buffer stocks of the essential commodities have been made

to control the prices of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the measures taken proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b). There are adequate buffer stocks of wheat and rice with Government for distribution through Public Distribution System under normal circumstances. Sugar production during the current year is going to be excellent and adequate sugar will be available both for levy as well as for open market sale.

Kerosene oil requirements are met, both, from indigenous production and imports. Adequate inventories are held at various locations.

In respect of Edible Oils, stocks are maintained depending upon the quantum of imports from time to time.

Nursing Schools in Maharashtra

10206. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are Nursing Schools in Maharashtra which have not been recognised by Indian Nursing Council and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken/proposed for their recognition.

(c) the number of recognised nursing schools in Maharashtra and their output capacity per year vis-a-vis estimated demand of trained nurses in the State; and

(d) what steps have been taken/proposed to meet the retirement of trained nurses in Maharashtra and Vidarbha region in particular?