

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : No, Sir. They can be used for better things.

[*Translation*]

Production of Vanaspati by Ganesh Flour Mills, Kanpur

*332. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the monthly production of Vanaspati Ghee No. 1 in Ganesh Flour Mills, Kanpur; and

(b) the basis on which it is distributed along with the number of distributors ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) The average monthly production of M's. Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation (Ganesh Flour Mills), Kanpur is around 2,500 M.T.

(b) The Kanpur Unit of the Corporation distributes Vanaspati on the basis of assessed demand through 435 wholesale stockists and 9 depots.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : I want to know from the hon. Minister the V.I.P. quota for this distribution along with the names of V.I.Ps. ?

[*English*]

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : There is no V.I.P. quota as such, as far as I know. But if there is any specific complaint which the hon. Member has about discrimination being exercised as between the stockists and persons receiving vanaspati from this mill, I shall look into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Mr.

Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is aware.....

MR. SPEAKER : You have usurped the permission to speak !

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, he believes in self-reliance.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Is the hon. Minister aware that at the time of public functions or on the occasion of marriages, etc., one has to buy Vanaspati ghee in the black market and its price increases leading to loss to the people ? Will the hon. Minister make arrangements whereby the public could get vanaspati ghee at reasonable rates on the occasion of marriages or festivals ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government always tries to increase the production of Vanaspati during the peak season of marriages and festivals and for that purpose additional quota is also allotted to the mills. There is no doubt that, at times, shortage is created, excessive price is charged, but Government have entered into voluntary agreement with the manufacturers and prices are fixed in accordance with that agreement. At the same time, we also keep a watch, particularly, we impress upon the State Governments and district administrations time and again to report the cases of over-charging to us and to take action against such persons, so that we may not supply imported oil to such mills in future and may take other action also against them.

MR. SPEAKER : You can cut Shri Anjiah's quota.

[*English*]

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*334. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the MINISTER OF LABOUR be pleased to state :