

Import of Essential Commodities

*39. SHRI K. M. "MADHUKAR": Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to import some of the daily necessities of the poor people to fight against the game of the speculators and traders; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Government have taken several measures to ensure availability of daily necessities to the poor people and for counteracting the speculative trade. Apart from extending the public distribution system, anti-hoarding measures have been intensified. In addition domestic supplies of edible oils are being supplemented by imported vegetable oils like Soyabean oil, Palm oil, Rapessed oil to the extent of 1.25 lakh tonnes between July and December, 1976. Similarly, imports of kerosene oil of 8 lakh tonnes have been decided upon during the current calendar year.

Participation of Film Artistes in A.I.R. and T.V. Programmes

*40. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has proposed participation of film artistes in AIR and Television programmes;

(b) whether there has been any agreement between the representatives of the Film Industry and his Ministry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. As a result of discussions in various forums of film personalities, an agreement is being worked out to seek their participation in AIR and T.V. programmes.

(c) The agreement provides for the Producers/Directors/Composers Lyricists/Story or Dialogue Writers/Performers etc. to participate in programmes broadcast/telecast over AIR and Doordarshan in such manner as may be decided by the Director General, AIR/ Doordarshan on payment of fee on rates prevalent in AIR/Doordarshan from time to time.

Distribution of Essential Articles through fair price shops

149. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Minister for Industries had assured recently that the distribution of all necessary articles including food for students would be made at reduced prices through the fair price shops in all the States; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). In pursuance of implementation of part of the 20-Point Economic Programme, Government have formulated a scheme for supply of essential consumer articles to the student community. 76 Central Consumer Cooperative Stores in 43 towns have been selected for the supply of these commodities to students through consumer cooperative institu-