

### **Change in Procurement Policy of Wheat**

7162. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change the procurment policy for wheat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefit likely to be accured to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b). The thrust of Government procurement policy has been to ensure adequate price support to farmers so that distress sale does not occur. During current rabi marketing season, all movement restrictions have been removed and traders and roller flour mills have been allowed to operate freely in the market.

The Reserve Bank of India has liberalised credit facilities to roller flour mills and it is hoped that this will help roller flour mills to make adequate purchases from farmers.

The procurement price of wheat be marketed during 1990-91 season has been raised from Rs. 200/- per quintal to Rs. 215/- per quintal. The higher procurement price is expected to give an incentive to farmers for increasing production.

### **Supply of Kerosene oil in Villages of Delhi**

7163. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people living in the villages and jhuggi-jhonpri colonies are facing shortage of kerosene oil in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons for not supplying kerosene oil as per their requirements;

(c) whether complaints of malpractices and irregularities in supplying the kerosene oil have been received, if so, the details thereof, and the action taken on these complaints;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the shopkeepers who were found guilty of malpractices in the supply of kerosene; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to eliminate the malpractices and the smooth Supply of kerosene oil in the villages and J.J. Colonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A few complaints of irregularities in the supply of kerosene oil were received by Delhi Administration. These were checked and Departmental action taken against two licences.

(e) The officials of Delhi Administration are exercising strict vigil on the activities of the dealers to check malpractices and maintaining smooth supply of Kerosene Oil in these areas.

### **Leprosy and T.B. Patients Statewise**

7164. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of leprosy and T.B. patient in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been any increase in the number of such patients during