

SHRI S. M. GURADDI : May I know whether those who had participated in the Royal Indian Navy uprising and others have also been allotted houses in Delhi ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Before 1979 53 MPs and 62 freedom fighters were allotted flats in Delhi.

SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Have you included these persons in the freedom fighters' list ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I have told you that there was a Committee called Baveja Committee which was appointed in 1978. That Committee at that time found that 91 per cent of the flats were allotted to persons in the reserved quota like SC and ST, MPs, war widows, ex-service-men and so on and so forth. the Baveja Committee recommended that such thing should not happen. So, we accepted reservations in four categories only and that is SC and ST, war widows, disabled persons. Now, these four categories of persons are allotted houses under the reserved quota. It is open for others to get themselves registered and get a flat under the general rules of DDA. Now, there is no reservation for MPs and freedom fighters.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the hon. Minister consider the cases of those M.Ps. who got themselves registered for a house during their term but did not get flats before their term expired ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : As I have said some MPs got themselves registered before 1979 also like all other people. It is not that they will not get houses. Before 1979 3 per cent flats and 2.5 per cent plots were reserved for MPs. Now, that reservation is no more. But if a person, whether he is an MP, ex-MP or a freedom fighter, applies for a flat according to the general rules of DDA, he will get it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will you consider allotting houses to those who got themselves registered before 1979 when the reservation was there, but did not get the flat ?

[*English*]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Out of the MPs who had got themselves registered, 28 MPs got the flats.

Cut in import of edible oils

*83. **SHRI SRIHARI RAO :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that vanaspati manufacturers are using 60 per cent of imported oils supplied to them at subsidised rates;

(b) whether in view of the excellent oilseed crop, the imports of edible oils are proposed to be cut down substantially so as to encourage use of indigenous vegetable oils; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Imported edible oil to the extent of 60% of their requirement is being currently allotted to the vanaspati industry. This does not involve any subsidy presently.

(b) and (c). The import of edible oils during January-June, 1985 was substantially lower than the corresponding period of 1984. The allocation of imported oils to vanaspati industry has been reduced significantly since the beginning of March, 1985. Some other steps have also been taken to encourage the use of indigenous oils which include permission to the vanaspati industry to use up to 10% solvent extracted mustard/rapeseed oil since 1st June, 1985. Storage limit for dealers in respect of indigenous oilseeds/edible oils has been doubled with effect from 14th June, 1985 under the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the amount of foreign exchange involved in the import of oilseed at present.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Sir, that is a question which can be properly answered by the Commerce Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER : Amount involved corresponding to the tonnage.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Imports are still taking place. Tenders are being floated. The price paid for different quantities purchased on different dates are different. Therefore, it is not possible for me to state now exactly as to what is the total expenditure that will be incurred this year or has been incurred this year so far.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Instead of wasting your valuable foreign exchange on importing oilseeds, why not to give remunerative price to the farmers and increase the production of oilseeds in our own country ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Sir, remunerative prices for farmers are fixed from year to year for different varieties of oilseeds, and it is a fact that in the past, prices of oilseeds have been ruling higher than the prices announced by the Government, but this year, for certain crops the prices went below the announced prices, like in the case of mustard seeds, and the Government intervened in the market. The Agriculture Ministry through NAFED purchased certain quantities in different markets in the oil producing States, and that helped prices to rise a little. But as it is, it is not only a question of paying remunerative prices to farmers for oilseeds that can assure adequate quantities to meet the internal requirements, at least for some years to come as we can see now. Therefore, a long term policy is required. Naturally, price will be one of the factors which will help increase production. Farmers are very intelligent. They compare the profits obtained from one crop with the profit obtained from the other crop. In irrigated areas and in fertile lands they like to go in for production of other crops than oilseeds which is generally cultivated in unirrigated lands.

SHRI RAGHUMA REDDY : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that during 1984-85, 90 per cent of the imported oil had been given to vanaspati manufacturers.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : No, Sir, I do not think so. 90 per cent was not given to vanaspati manufacturers. The supply to vanaspati manufacturers has been curtailed to 60 per cent of the production.

SHRI RAGHUMA REDDY : 60 per cent you are generally giving, but during 1984-85, you have given 90 per cent to the vanaspati manufacturers.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Yes, that was up to December. But after that we have been reducing the percentage of oil supply to vanaspati manufacturers.

SHRI RAGHUMA REDDY : Why, Sir ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : To help producers to get better prices for the indigenous oil.

SHRI RAGHUMA REDDY : Why you have given 90 per cent during the election year ? To collect the election fund ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : It was to check the prices from going too high, to protect the interests of consumers.

SHRI RAGHUMA REDDY : At what rate are you giving to the vanaspati manufacturers and at what rate are they selling the vanaspati ?

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot put three questions.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Sir, I would like to know whether the country has a great deal of unutilised capacity for the production of oilseeds and whether some State Governments have come with definite proposals to the Central Government with schemes for opening new areas for augmenting the production of oilseeds. I know for certain that the Government of Karnataka had come forward with such a proposal. What is your attitude to those proposals and what exactly was proposed by the Karnataka Government, and what has to that proposal ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Sir, this particular proposal would be known to my friend the Minister of Agriculture, if a separate question is put to him. But as I know, several special projects in the past have been sanctioned by the Government for increasing production of oilseeds. As in

Gujarat, for instance, there was a special project for subsidies for cultivation of groundnuts. That was later on extended to some other parts also. In Madhya Pradesh, there was a special project for Soyabean cultivation. If other States also come forward to increase production of oilseeds, they can take advantage of the other schemes for subsidy, as, for instance, the small and Marginal Farmers Special Project of Rs. 250 crores which was sanctioned last year. Also mini-kits are available free to farmers. Then for minor irrigation' subsidies and loans are available to small and marginal farmers and there are several other schemes under the Ministry of Agriculture for plant protection. There are also schemes for supply of seeds, at subsidised rates and under the Special Projects subsidy is available even for irrigation, for seeds, for plant protection and for various other things.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I think the recent technological developments have made it possible to extract edible oil from a number of sources, which have not hitherto been used. One of the most important one is rice bran. Oil extracted from rice bran was not edible so far, but now technology has made it edible. In this country we have 60 million tonnes of rice and 30 million tonnes of rice bran. And with 10 per cent oil extraction, it will give us three million tonnes of edible oil. There are also other sources for oil production such as Sal seeds that are available. They give very high value oil, including the cocoa butter. Then even the mango-kernel gives a very rich quantity of oil. I would like to know what the Government is doing to see that the edible oil shortage is wiped out by using these sources and the technology which are now available in this country ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Government is laying special emphasis on extraction of oil from the sources which the hon. Member has mentioned. We are aware of all these sources, but I am doubtful if the gap between demand and supply of edible oils in this country can be met by adopting these sources alone.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : By adopting these resources also.

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

MR. SPEAKER : I have a proposal, both the hon. Ministers are present here.

You had said that the farmer is smart and he switches over to the crop which gives him more remunerative price. Therefore, it is my proposal that you should ensure it in advance that the price of the produce does not fall below the support price level, so that he may continue to grow that crop.

[English]

And he should be fully prepared in advance. He should not be allowed to be fleeced by others. This is my proposal.

[Translation]

Setting up of a T.V. Centre in Chambal Region

*84. **SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a television centre in Chambal Region;

(b) if so, whether installation of T.V. towers in Ambah and Porsa tehsils will benefit the inhabitants of this areas; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) No, Sir. The existing transmitters at Agra, Kanpur and Allahabad, however, provide significant coverage to this area.

(b) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government to instal TV transmitters at Ambah or Porsa.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chambal area is quite far off from Agra, Kanpur and Gwalior Doordarshan Kendras. The coverage of Gwalior Kendra is also very small. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he will consider raising the power of the transmitters installed Agra, Etawa and Gwalior Centres.

[English]

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Unless the Seventh Plan is finalised, it will not be