

of tonnes, how much of edible oil production is expected during this year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMERS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The procurement of wheat during 1993-94 rabi market season has broken all previous records and stood at 128.35 lakh tonnes as on 13.8.93 as against the highest level at 110.65 lakh tonnes achieved in 1990-91. The procurement of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) has also broken all previous records during 1992-93 kharif marketing season and it stood at 130.35 lakh tonnes as on 13.8.93, out of which 12.50 lakh tonnes was procured in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat which do not contribute to the Central Pool. Prior to 1992-93 kharif season, the highest procurement of rice (including "paddy in terms of rice") was recorded in 1990-91 kharif season when it was 126.76 lakh tonnes.

The position of availability of edible oil appears to be alright. However Government is reviewing the availability position of edible oil. Government may, if necessary to keep prices under check, take necessary steps to enhance the availability for meeting festival demand etc. There are adequate stocks of wheat and rice to meet the requirements of Public Distribution System. The Higher availability of rice and wheat for PDS is expected to have sobering effect on the prices. It is not possible to quantify the fall in prices in future. The distribution of these commodities through PDS directly helps poor sections of the society as these are supplied at cheaper rates than the market prices. The higher production of edible oils will help in keeping their prices under control.

(c) The edible oil production from all domestic sources this year is expected to be around 61 lakh MT.

सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत मोटे अनाजों की आपूर्ति

*** 368. श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम :**
श्री सोम पाल :

क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत सरकार के कृषि मंत्रालय तथा कृषि संबंधी संसदीय समिति ने सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से जनसाधारण को विभिन्न मोटे अनाज उपलब्ध कराये जाने की सिफारिश की है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उनके मंत्रालय ने इस संबंध में क्या निर्णय लिया है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि इन मोटे देसी अनाजों में लवण, खनिज प्रोटीन, कार्बोहाइड्रेट और खाद्य तेलों आदि जैसे सभी पोषक तत्वों का आदर्श अनुपात में सम्मिश्रण है ;

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो इनके भोजन में मोटे अनाजों के अधिक उपयोग के बारे में जनसाधारण को शिक्षित करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ;

(ङ) क्या सरकार इस संबंध में हैदराबाद स्थित पोषकता अनुसंधान संस्थान से शोध कराकर उसके निष्कर्षों का प्रचार करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(च) यदि हाँ, तो किन माध्यमों, यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री ए०के० एंटनी) : (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने महाराष्ट्र, मध्य प्रदेश, गुजरात, राजस्थान, हरियाणा, कर्नाटक, आंध्र प्रदेश तथा उड़ीसा को ज्वार, बाजरा, मक्का, जैसे मोटे अनाज आबंटित किए हैं ।

(ग) सरकार आबादी को पोषणिक खाद्य उपलब्ध कराने में मोटे अनाजों की क्षमता से वाकिफ है। ज्वार, बाजरा तथा रागी ऊर्जा के महत्वपूर्ण स्रोत हैं और उनसे खजिन तथा रेशा भी प्राप्त होता है।

(घ) विभिन्न क्षेत्रों तथा समाज के विभिन्न स्तर के लोग भिन्न-भिन्न खाद्यान्नों को पसन्द करते हैं। तथापि, ग्रामीण, शहरी तथा आदिवासी क्षेत्रों के लोगों को खाद्य और पोषाहार बोर्ड की 27 राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों में स्थित पोषाहार विस्तार एकाई द्वारा शुरू की गई पोषाहार शिक्षा संबंधी गतिविधियों के जरिए मोटे अनाजों के पोषणिक महत्व के बारे में शिक्षित करने के प्रयास किए गए हैं।

(ङ) और (च) पोषाहार अनुसंधान संस्थान, हैदराबाद तथा अन्य संस्थान, विभिन्न खाद्यान्नों के पोषणिक पहलुओं के बारे में लगातार अनुसंधान कार्यक्रमों में संलग्न रहते हैं।

State of Consumer movement in the country

*369. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHA-RMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the development of consumer movement is lopsided at present;

(b) whether Government have identified the weak spots in this regard;

(c) what steps Government propose to take for even development of the movement in the country;

(d) the names of the States which have full fledged organisations to deal with the spread of movement; and

(e) whether any central aid is being given to the States to boost consumer movement if so, break up thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY); (a) to (c) Consumer protection programme covers the entire country including urban, semi-urban and rural areas. Consumer movement itself is a recent development in our country. At present, the movement is mainly restricted to urban and semi-urban areas where the population is literate and aware of their rights. Due to the vastness of the country and large sections of illiterate population, it will take some time for the movement to reach the rural and remote areas. Government has taken a number of steps for the development of the movement. Such steps include enactment and enforcement of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986; organisation of seminars, training programmes, work shops, exhibitions etc.; preparation and free distribution of audio visual/printed material; broadcasting of weekly programme like "Apne Adhikar" from AIR; publishing of quarterly journal "Upabhokta Jagaran"; institution of national awards for youths, consumer organisations and women and grant of financial assistance to consumer organisations. In all these schemes attempt is made to give preference to rural areas and individuals/organisations with a rural base.

(d) In States, Departments dealing with civil supplies functions have been designated as nodal agency for implementing programmes on consumer protection. Some States like Gujarat have set up full fledged agency like Consumer Affairs and Protection Agency of Gujarat (CAPAG) to deal with the subject. However, there is no system of patronising any private organisation by the States for this purpose.

(e) Central Government has initiated a scheme to give financial assistance to the States/UTs to the extent of Rs. 40,000/- per annum for undertaking consumer awareness programmes. Year-wise particular*