

Demand for increase in quota of rationed items to Gujarat

631. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat urged the Central Government in 1984 to increase its quota of rationed items like palm and rapeseed oil;

(b) if so, the details of such demand;

(c) the action taken thereon and the quantity of the above items given to Gujarat during that period; and

(d) what steps are being taken to increase the supply of these items to Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Gujarat had demanded an enhanced allocation of 11,500 Mts. of Palmolein per month for July, September and October,

(c) and (d) The following monthly allocation of Palmolein and Sunflower oil was made to Gujarat: —

| Month | in M, tonne | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Quantity | allocated |
| | Palmolein | Sunflower Oil |
| June, 1984 | 2,500 | + 2,500 |
| July, 1984 | 4,000 | 3,000 |
| August, 1984 | 8,000 | |
| September, 1984 | 9,000 | |
| October, 1984 | 6,400 | 4,100 |

The quantity of imported edible oil allocated is meant to supplement the local availability of edible oils and is not intended to meet the full demand of the State Government. Gujarat being a major oil producing State, the allocation of imported edible oils already made to it is considered adequate.

Unsold wheat seeds of high yielding varieties

632. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge stocks of wheat seeds of high yielding varieties are lying unsold with the National Seeds Corporation and its State units;

(b) if so, what is the total stock lying with the Corporation;

(c) what are the reasons for such huge stocks remaining unsold; and

(d) whether Government propose to sell the stock?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) National Seeds Corporation of India are to maintain a buffer stock of 70,000 quintals of certified wheat seeds. They have with them a stock of 1 lakh quintals.

(c) The reasons for carrying additional 30,000 quintals over and above the quantity to be maintained as buffer stock are as follows:

(i) Due to drought/inadequate rainfall during Kharif 1984 a portion of the wheat area in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, etc., has been diverted to other crop which require less water.

(ii) The dislocation in the road transportation during first 15 days of November, 1984, which is the crucial period for movement of wheat seeds also affected the delivery in right time and consequently shortfall in consumption.

(iii) Some of the State Governments and State Agencies did not lift the committed quantities of wheat seeds.