

Rise in price of bakery vanaspati

3003. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the vanaspati manufacturers have raised the price of bakery vanaspati, if so, to what extent and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have decided to ban the use of imported oil for the manufacture of bakery vanaspati, and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government are contemplating to meet the situation with a view to checking price rise in biscuits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER of THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) to (c) The supply of imported oil to vanaspati manufacturers is for the production of vanaspati only for which there is a voluntary price agreement. It is not meant for other items like bakery shortening, margarine, etc. Accordingly, the use of imported oil in the manufacture of bakery shortening has been banned from 1-8-83.

Since there is no price or distribution control on bakery shortening, Government have no information whether the price of this commodity has been increased by the manufacturers.

Requirements of additional coaches

3004. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to step up coach production to meet immediate requirements of additional coaches; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of obsolete coaches which need replacement; and

(c) the present stage of expansion of the Railway's coach-building capa-

city both as short and long-term measures?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) Yes. Need for setting up a second coach factory has been accepted in principle. Detailed Project Report is under preparation. The factory will be set up on finalisation of the report.

(b) There is no question of categorisation of any coach as obsolete so long as it is fit for service.

(c) Capacity of coach building workshops is being stepped up to the extent possible by marginal inputs. A new coach building factory is being contemplated as a long-term measure.

Malaria Eradication Programme

3005. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up any Malaria Eradication Programme at national level in view of the high incidence of malaria in epidemic form in some of the States;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) the manner in which it is likely to be executed immediately to prevent the suffering of people from this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) National Malaria Eradication Programme was launched in 1958, which yielded appreciable results, in bringing down the incidence of malaria. However, the incidence of malaria started rising again from 1965 and concerned with the resurgence of malaria in the Country, the Government of India launched a Modified Plan of Operations which is being