

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to check this threat to the depleting forest wealth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Forest Research Institute and Colleges, Dehra Dun under the Ministry of Agriculture has developed an improved method of resin tapping known as the "Rill Method" which ensures higher yield of resin without detrimental effect on the trees. This method has also been demonstrated to the States concerned and recommended for adoption by them.

Supply of Imported Oil Seeds and Edible Oils to North Eastern States

1369. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out a new arrangement to ensure regular supply of imported oil seeds and edible oils to Assam and other North Eastern States; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY): (a) and (b). The Central Government has been allocating imported edible oils (not oilseeds) to the various States of North-Eastern Region including Assam to meet all their reasonable requirements. The supplies are made through the State Trading Corporation of India. The Central Government has also been extending to them due assistance in lifting and issue of these oils through the public distribution system. A number of steps have

recently been taken in that respect. The storage at STC depots in the East has been increased, and STC has drawn up an operational plan with the Railways for regular movement to these depots of railway rakes carrying imported oils in tins, so that sufficient stocks are maintained in these depots. National Cooperative Consumers' Federation has taken up the work of handling agent of imported oils in some of the States in the region, which did not have adequate infrastructure for that purpose. It has also been decided with effect from 1-8-1981 to allow road freight reimbursement to the States in the North-Eastern region upto a central point in each State, to facilitate larger lifting of imported edible oils by these States.

Supply of essential commodities through Public Distribution System

1370. SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had announced the scheme during the emergency under which 15 essential commodities were to be supplied at fixed prices;

(b) if so, which are those essential commodities and by when Government propose to arrange its supplies through public distribution system to the consumers; and

(c) what steps Government are taking for the proper functioning of the public distribution system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. Commodities, such as wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, kerosene oil and soft coke are being

supplied generally through the public distribution system in the country. Controlled cloth is also being distributed on a selective basis through the retail outlets of cooperatives. Some State Governments have arranged for distribution of additional commodities, such as pulses, spices, tea, coffee; salt, exercise books, toilet soap, etc. through the public distribution system.

(c) The public distribution system is kept under constant review in consultation with the State Government and various Union Ministries concerned with the supply of essential commodities.

The State Governments have been asked to strengthen the infra-structure of the public distribution system to streamline the supply of essential commodities.

Most of the State Governments have constituted Consumer Advisory Committees at district, tehsil, block and panchayat levels to oversee the functioning of the fair price shops.

The system has been expanded to progressively cover remote and inaccessible areas. There are at present 2.97 lakh fair price shops compared to 2.40 lakh fair shops in January, 1980.

The State Governments are enforcing the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the provisions of the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 to curb the activities of anti-social elements.

मध्य प्रदेश को खाद्य तेलों की सप्लाई

1301. श्री प्यारे लाल खंडेलवाल : क्या नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार खाद्य तेलों को परिशोधित करके मध्य प्रदेश को भेजती है, यदि हाँ, तो मध्य प्रदेश को प्रति मास कितना-कितना खाद्य तेल भेजा जाता है ;

(ख) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने हाल में अपरिशोधित खाद्य तेलों के भेजे जाने के संबंध में भारत सरकार को कोई पत्र भेजा था; यदि हाँ, तो उसका शीर्षक क्या है ;

(ग) क्या इससे पूर्व खाद्य तेलों का परिशोधन इन्दौर के रुचि ट्रेडर्स के मालिक श्री कैलाश सहारा के माध्यम से मध्य प्रदेश में किया जाता था ;

(घ) क्या तेलों को परिशोधित करने का काम रुचि ट्रेडर्स, इन्दौर से वापस ले लिया गया है ;

(ङ) क्या मैसर्स रुचि ट्रेडर्स के मालिक के खिलाफ खाद्य तेलों की काला-बाजारी और उनके परिशोधन में गड़बड़ी करने को कोई शिकायत प्राप्त हुई है ; और

(च) यदि हाँ, तो उसका शीर्षक क्या है और फर्म के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

जि.

नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बृजमोहन मोहन्ती) : (क) और (ख) मध्य प्रदेश को सार्वजनिक वितरण के लिए आयातित खाद्य तेलों का आवंटन तथा इनकी आपूर्ति अन्य राज्यों के साथ की जा रही है। इन तेलों में से पामोलीन और आर०बो०डो०ताड़ के तेल का आयात परिष्कृत रूप में किया जाता है और वे उसी रूप में सप्लाई किये जाते हैं। जहाँ तक रेपसोड तेल का सम्बन्ध है, पहले यह राज्य सरकारों को अपरिष्कृत रूप में सप्लाई किया जाता था और राज्य सरकार की यह जिम्मेदारी होती थी कि