

(c) The Central issue price of wheat is Rs. 145/- per quintal for public distribution system and Rs. 155/- per quintal for Roller Flour Mills. There is no proposal to change these rates at present.

#### Sub-standard and adulterated pesticides

@794. DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the "Hindustan Times" dated the 26th July, 1981 regarding high prevalence of Sub-standard and adulterated pesticides; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to protect the interests of agriculturists and horticulturists from this evil practice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (MISS KAMALA KUMARI): (a) No such news item has been published in the Hindustan Times, dated the 26th July, 1981. However, the Government is aware of such reports appearing in certain sections of the press.

(b) The Government constituted five Survey Teams on zonal basis to assess the quality control arrangements of pesticides in the States. Reports from four Survey Teams were received and have been sent to the concerned State Governments for necessary action, pending examination. The Government has issued

directive to the State Governments under section 34 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, for ensuring quality control of pesticides. A part of the capacity of the Central Insecticides Laboratory has been earmarked for analysis of pesticide samples received from those States, which do not have adequate facilities for analysis of these samples.

#### Prices of edible oils

795. SHRI BRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest rates for purchase and sale of imported edible oils and what was the percentage of profit earned thereon;

(b) whether it is a fact that prices of edible oils are increasing day by day; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government bring down their prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY):

(a) In view of the fluctuations in the international markets, the prices of edible oils in those markets keep varying each day. The rate of purchase of imported oil varies with each transaction. Thus it is not possible to work out the surplus or deficit till the accounts for the whole year are finalised.

The issue prices of imported edible oils charged by STC are presently as under:—

#### From Vanaspati Industry:

Soyabean/Rapeseed Oil (Crude), in bulk . . . . .	Rs. 72 10 per MT (excluding incidence of sales tax.)
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#### From State Governments for Public Distribution

Rapeseed Oil (Crude)	Rs. 6300 per MT
(Refined in tins)	Rs. 8000 per MT
RED Palm Oil (in bulk)	Rs. 6400 per MT
(in tins)	Rs. 7750 per MT
Palmolefin (in bulk)	Rs. 6400 per MT
(in tins)	Rs. 7750 per MT

@Previous Unstarred Question 84 transferred from the 17th August, 1981.