

Corporation is exploring the possibility of expanding its activities, and examining the various alternatives.

Packings of vegetable ghee

192. SHRI B. P. NAGARAJA MURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints to the effect that the Government-owned Ganesh Flour Mill, Delhi is filling 100 to 300 grams short of vanas-pati in each tin of 4 kg; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted by Government in this regard and with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Weights and Measures Department of the Delhi Administration, a complaint was received on the 23rd May, 1974 that tins of vanaspati manufactured in M/s Ganesh Flour Mills Co., Ltd., contained less vanaspati than its declared weight. The Department arranged for continuous checking by the Inspectors of Weights and Measures of 4 Kg. and 2 Kg. tins of vanaspati manufactured by this factory. It was observed that the average net weight of these containers was invariably within the tolerance limit of 2 per cent except on two occasions. In May, 1974 some individual containers were found short by 2.4 per cent and 4.55 per cent and the factory was warned to be careful in packing vanaspati in future. On the second occasion of checking on 10-7-74 there was an average shortage of 13.9 per cent. Action of procurement is being taken by the Delhi Administration.

Fall in Indian ships share in foreign trade

193. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :
SHRI KHURSHEDALAM
KHAN : SHRI HARSH DEO
MALAVIYA: SHRI SARDAR
AMJAD ALI :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a fall in Indian ships share in foreign trade ;

(b) if so, what is the extent of fall and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to improve Indian ships' share in foreign trade?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir. The share of Indian Shipping in the carriage of our foreign trade has recently gone up.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps are being taken to increase Indian Ships' share in our Foreign trade by expanding the Indian Merchant Fleet and developing our Ports.

Use of Bitumen for road making

194. SHRI HARESH DEO MALAVIYA :

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have suggested to the State Governments to look for ways of economising in the use of bitumen for road making ; and

(b) if so, what are the substitutes suggested ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. No substitutes were however suggested. Instead, lower specifications were indicated. The enclosed statement gives details of these specifications.

Statement

Details and Specifications suggested by the Ministry of Shipping and Transport (Roads Wing) to States to Economise on the useof Bitumen in Road Works

(a) *Maintenance of roads.*—Both for National Highways and other State roads, renewal maintenance specification should