

SHORT SUPPLY OF MILK IN DELHI

1225. SHRI M. K. MOHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that milk is in short supply in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps contemplated to be taken by Government to meet the situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) Yes.

(b) Necessary steps are being taken by Delhi Administration to increase milk production in the Union Territory through grant of loans to farmers for purchase of milch cattle and by providing breeding and veterinary services.

Four Intensive Cattle Development Projects have also been sanctioned by the Central Government for increasing milk production in the adjoining districts of Meerut, Gurgaon, Karnal and also Bikaner (Rajasthan which constitute the milk shed of Delhi Milk Scheme. A provision of Rs. 220.37 lakhs has been made in the 4th Five Year Plan for grant of loans for purchase of milch animals, provision of breeding facilities, veterinary services, feed and fodder and other rural Dairy Extension Services. A sizable investment out of the provision of Rs. 20 to 25 crores allocated for Delhi under Operation Flood, will also be utilised for providing inputs for increasing milk production in the milk shed areas of Delhi Milk Scheme. The details are being worked out by the National Dairy Development Board.

CAPACITY AND REQUIREMENTS OF VANASPATI UNITS

1226. SHRI M. K. MOHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vanaspati units are running below capacity due to shortage of oils and oilseeds;

(b) the present installed capacity of the vanaspati industry and the estimated requirement at present and at the end of Fourth Plan; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the supply of oilseeds and manufacturing capacity of the vanaspati industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) Vanaspati factories are main-

taining normal production, which is gene-

rally linked to the demand for the product. The installed capacity is, however, somewhat higher than the production.

(b) The present installed capacity of the industry is 8.2 lakh tonnes per year. Estimated requirement is 6.0 lakh tonnes per year at present, and 7.25 lakh tonnes by the end of the Fourth Plan.

(c) Increase in the supply of oilseeds is sought to be achieved by the adoption of, intensive cultivation measures for groundnut in the potential areas both under the Central and State sectors of the Plan, as well as by encouraging cultivation of new oil-seeds like soyabean and sunflower.

Substantial increase in the manufacturing capacity of the vanaspati industry was affected when the industry was partially de-licensed during the period September, 1968 to February, 1970 and it is now adequate for the requirements.

PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT BY F.C.I

1227. SHRI M. K. MOHTA: DR. Z.

A. AHMAD: SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

SHRI A. D. MANI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite a bumper crop, the procurement of wheat by the Food Corporation of India has been considerably lower than the target fixed during the rabi season;

(b) if so, the actual procurement of wheat as against the target fixed; and

(c) the reasons for low procurement and the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) No separate target was fixed for procurement of wheat by the Food Corporation of India. Against an overall target of 3.7 million tonnes recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission, the actual procurement so far has been about 3 million tonnes.

(c) This year's total procurement cannot be termed low. Procurement is still in progress and actual procurement during the whole of the marketing season is expected to reach nearer the target.