

New Delhi consequent on heavy purchases of gur for distillation purposes;

(b) whether any record has been kept in Delhi of gur and sugar requirements by distilleries operating near- about Delhi; and

(c) whether the Minister has issued an order banning the use of gur for the production of liquor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. in the early part of April.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. A Gur (Regulation of Use) Order, 1968, was issued on the 3rd April, 1968, prohibiting the use of gur for any purpose other than for the purpose of—

(i) consumption in the form of gur; or

(ii) preparation of any article (not being alcoholic liquor used as food or drink for human consumption); or

(iii) cattle feed.

COLOURISATION OF VANASPATI

173. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: SHRI M. M. DHARIA: SHRI G. R. PATIL:

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

(a) the reasons for delay in implementing the recommendations of the Experts Committee which went into the question of colourisation of Vanaspati; and

(b) by what time the recommendations are expected to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M.S.GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Views of the Ministry of Health on the recommendations made in the Report were awaited. These have just been received, and further action is being taken to finalise Government's decision thereon expeditiously.

CORRUPTION IN THE FIELD OF COOPERATION

174. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Head of the Department of Cooperation of Maharashtra drew the attention of the Minister of State for Cooperation about various types of corruption that have entered into the field of cooperation; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to eradicate corruption in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

OVERDUE LOANS FOR CO-OPS

175. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that overdue loans from credit co-operatives in the country have been increasing year after year; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to arrest this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments have been advised to tighten up their collection machinery so that the surplus available from good harvest of the current year could be utilised for bringing down the overdues. In the case of persistent and chronic defaulters, it has been emphasised that coercive measures should be taken. Wherever possible, recovery of the dues through linkage with marketing /procurement has also been suggested.

FARM PROCESSING UNITS

176. SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJAGOPALAN): With the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expert committee of the National Cooperative Development Corporation has suggested that more farm processing units should be set up in co-operative sector; and

(b) if so, when they are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(to) The programme is likely to be taken up during the Fourth Plan period beginning from April, 1969.

177. [Transferred to 9th May, 1968.]

WAGE BOARD FOR JOURNALISTS AND NON-JOURNALISTS

178. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: With the Minister of LABOUR AND

REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made regarding implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Board for Journalists and non-Journalists;

(b) the State Governments which have taken initiative and settled the matter; and

(c) whether prosecution has been initiated against any proprietor for non-implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Board for Working Journalists?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAI-SUKHLAL HATHI): (a) and (b) A statement showing the information available in regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Board for Journalists, is placed on the Table (*See* below).

As regards Non-Journalists, an agreement was reached at Delhi between the representations of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society and All Indian Newspaper Employees Federation on the 23rd April 1968, in regard to interim payments in consequence of the recommendations of the Wage Board and further bipartite talks to settle the dispute amicably.

(c) Prosecutions under the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955; are to be launched by the State Governments in respect of the Wage Board for Journalists only. They have been advised to take necessary action in cases of non-implementation.