

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether it is a fact that rice-mills in the States have been appointed as agents to purchase rice and they supply rice to the Government?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Yes. I find in some States the rice mills purchase rice for the Government because it is convenient to do so. They gather rice from various cultivators and they give rice to the Government.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the Government in those States also purchase rice in the open market?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid questions regarding details of administration and management of State Governments should properly be put in the local legislatures.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May I know whether Government of India is going to de-control foodgrains in all the States as in Madras?

**Shri Karmarkar:** That would require notice obviously.

**Shri Pocker Saheb:** May I know whether the Government has decided to de-control foodgrains so far as Madras State is concerned, and if so, whether in spite of that procurement by levy system continues in the surplus areas in that State?

**Shri Karmarkar:** That would also require notice.

**Shri Damodara Menon:** Is it the policy of the Government to enforce a uniform system of procurement throughout India?

**Shri Karmarkar:** No, Sir; that is not the policy. It will vary according to the local circumstances.

#### PROCUREMENT PRICES OF FOODGRAINS

\*664. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the rates of procurement prices fixed for different foodgrains in different States?

(b) Have these rates been revised or whether these were the same as the last year?

(c) What were the recommendations or suggestions in this regard made by different States?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 3.]

(b) In case of Rabi grains the procurement prices are the same as fixed

for last year except Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh who have of their own accord fixed lower prices. In case of *Kharif* grains, the procurement prices were revised in some of the States.

(c) Small increases in prices over that of previous year were suggested by some of the State Governments and where considered reasonable were accepted in full or at a reduced rate. Generally the prices were fixed on the levels obtaining in the previous year.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether it is a fact that some of the States suggested an increase in price and Government turned down the proposal?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the names of the States?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I should like to find out.

**Shri S. N. Das:** What is the margin of difference between the procurement price and the issue price in those States?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is an oft-repeated question. It will vary from State to State.

**Shri S. N. Das:** A committee was appointed to enquire into the wide difference between the procurement price and issue price in West Bengal Government. May I know whether the Government has come to any decision?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Only about West Bengal?

**Shri S. N. Das:** Yes.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I have no information.

**Dr P. S. Deshmukh:**—Is it a fact that a slight increase in the procurement price has brought in much more grain in Madhya Pradesh than was anticipated?

**Shri Karmarkar:** In Madhya Pradesh we get grains very easily either at a higher price or a lower price.

M.L.O

\*665. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any reduction has been made recently in the pooled prices of milo; and

(b) if so, what is the reduced price of milo?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Yes, the reduced price of Milo is Rs. 13 per maund for bagged cargo, delivered ex-port/Central Storage Depots.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total amount paid as subsidy to keep down the price of milo?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Giani G. S. Musafir: Q. 666.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रश्न नम्बर ६६६, ६६७ और ६६९ एक ही विषय से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं। इसलिये इन को एक साथ ही ले लिया जाय।

[Seth Govind Das: Sir, questions Nos. 666, 667 and 669 relate to one subject and may, therefore, be taken together.]

मिस्टर स्पीकर : कौन से क्रमांक ?

[Mr. Speaker: Which question?]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : नम्बर ६६६, ६६७ और ६६९।

[Seth Govind Das: Nos. 666, 667 and 669.]

डाक्टर पी० ऐस० देशमुख : बहुत माइली हो जायगा, साहब !

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It will become too oily, Sir.]

Mr. Speaker: Can all these be taken together?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no objection.

Mr. Speaker: Questions 666, 667 and 669 are being put now.

#### Vanaspati (COLOUR)

\*666. Giani G. S. Musafir: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government invited samples and formulae for suitable colours to be mixed in the vegetable ghee some time during the last five years?

(b) If so, how many such samples and formulae were received by Government?

(c) Was any of them approved?

(d) If so, how was the originator rewarded?

(e) What has been the main reason to drop the idea?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

#### VEGETABLE Ghee

\*667. Giani G. S. Musafir: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state where does the question of colouring vegetable ghee lie?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The Committee, appointed by Government to examine the extent of adulteration of ghee with vanaspati and other products and to suggest measures to eliminate or minimise adulteration with vanaspati, has suggested that vanaspati be coloured orange by using carotene oil concentrate as the colouring medium in addition to its latent colourisation with sesame oil. The recommendations of the Committee with regard to colourisation and other matters are under consideration of the Government of India.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member in whose name the question No. 669 stands is not present in the House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may please make sure!

#### Vanaspati

\*669. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India appointed a Committee to inquire into the ways and means whereby a consumer may be able to easily detect and differentiate between genuine ghee and hydrogenated oil, and to prevent the adulteration and admixture of the said oil with genuine ghee;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report and what are its main recommendations; and

(c) what steps the Government of India has taken or contemplate to take by way of colourization of the vegetable oil or otherwise to prevent its adulteration with genuine ghee?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The Committee submitted its report to the Government on the 15th May, 1952. Its main recommendations are:—