

Statement

| Year/Month | Panghat (in MT) | Rath (in MT) |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1982—July | 2381 | 666 |
| August | 2408 | 702 |
| September | 2583 | 651 |
| October | 2772 | 681 |
| November | 3125 | 479 |
| December | 2648 | 595 |
| 1983—January | 2812 | 542 |
| February | 2698 | 463 |
| March | 3014 | 458 |
| April | 2763 | 397 |
| May | 2746 | 442 |
| June | 2575 | 453 |
| TOTAL : | 32523 | 6529 |

Steps to Reduce Price of Vanaspati

207. SHRI MANOHAR LAL SAINI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given on the 8th March, 1982 to Starred Question No. 213 regarding steps to reduce price of vanaspati and state :

(a) if the prices of small packs are not correlated with the price of 16.5 kg. tin and there is wide gap between their prices ;

(b) if so, will the price of 16.5 kg. Panghat and those of 1 to 5 kilos Rath packs be indicated and correlated ;

(c) has an embargo been placed on the

packing of only 10 per cent of vanaspati in the smaller packs of the total production and the remaining being packed in 16.5 kg. tins ; and

(d) if not, reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) and (b). The prices of small packs are, by and large, correlated to the price of 16.5 kg. tin.

(c) and (d). Government of India have stipulated that by 31.8.1983, the production of vanaspati by a vanaspati unit during any

calendar month, in small packs, i.e. 1 kg., 2 kg., 4 kg., and 5 kg both in tin as well as in high density polythene containers, shall be so regulated as not to exceed 90% of its average monthly production of vanaspati in small packs, during the oil year 1981-82.

Spread of Rinderpest in Cows and Buffaloes

208. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rinderpest attack on cows and buffaloes in the country this year ; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to arrest the disease ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Outbreaks of Rinderpest have occurred in some States during 1983.

(b) A National Rinderpest Eradication Programme is being implemented in the country since Second Five-Year Plan. Mass vaccination of cattle and buffaloes was carried out in the Second and Third Five Year Plan periods. Follow-up vaccination of the new generation is being carried out since then. Rinderpest immune zones are being developed along inter-State and international land frontiers. Migratory stock of cattle and buffaloes are also provided vaccination against rinderpest at check-posts and vaccination stations located at important cattle movement routes along inter-State and international land frontiers of the country. The hidden pockets of infection are also identified through rinderpest surveillance and containment vaccination programme. As a result of these efforts, the incidence of rinderpest has been reduced in cattle and buffaloes from a level of 196 cases per lakh bovine population in mid-fifties to 1-2 cases per lakh now. A Task Force for chalking out a time-bound programme for total eradication of rinderpest from the country has also been recently set up.

Constitution of Committee for PADI

209. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee for People's Action for Development of India has been constituted ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATHA MISRA) : (a) and (b). No Committee is to be constituted for People's Action for Development (India). The two main organs of the People's Action for Development (India) are the Governing Council and the General Body. Re-constitution of these bodies could not be completed earlier due to certain procedural issues which have since been sorted out. It is expected to complete the process in the next 2 to 3 months.

Subsidy to Farmers for Irrigation Purposes

210. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal for giving subsidy to the small, marginal and middle farmers for buying pumpsets, tube-well equipments etc. for irrigation purposes ; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to that effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) has announced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing assistance to small and marginal farmers for increasing agricultural production. The scheme involves a total outlay of Rs. 250 crores for 1983-84 to be shared equally between the Centre and the Govern-