

Governmental Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings and private sector industries etc. For setting up of food processing units any where in the country including rural areas.

Besides, the Ministry has also been operating since 1992-93, a scheme for setting up Food processing and Training Centres (FPTCs) with strong focus on the rural areas.

[English]

Arms Race in South Asia

4184. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the five nuclear power meeting in Geneva, in first week of June, 1998 agreed on a plan of "Quick Action" to head off an arms race in South Asia, laying down ways, the United States could help ease tension in the region;

(b) if so, the details of Quick Action Plan and the role assigned to the US therein to ease tension; and

(c) the Government's reaction and response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) and (b) The Foreign Ministers of Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council, P-5, in their meeting in Geneva, June 4, 1998 adopted a Joint Communiqué which "condemned" the tests carried out by India and Pakistan, expressed their "deep concern about the danger to peace and stability in the region", and "pledged to cooperate closely" in order to prevent an arms race in the sub-continent, "bolster the non-proliferation regime and to encourage reconciliation and peaceful resolution of differences between India and Pakistan". They called upon India and Pakistan to adhere to the CTBT immediately and unconditionally and said that their goal continues to be adherence by all countries to the NPT as it stands, without any modification. They said that they would "actively encourage" India and Pakistan "to find mutually acceptable solutions, through direct dialogue that address the root causes of tension, including Kashmir and to try to build confidence rather than seek confrontation".

(c) The Government issued a statement pointing out that enjoys a consistent record as a responsible member of the international community and a pioneer and leading

participant in the movement towards global nuclear disarmament. India has made consistent efforts aimed towards building confidence and promoting peace and stability in our region. In the wake of the nuclear tests, Government have also taken various initiatives with a view to addressing concerns expressed subsequent to the tests. India expects a positive response to the various initiatives it has announced so that peace and stability are maintained in the sub-continent. The statement also underlined that one of the most serious threats to our security has arisen because of the non-observance of the obligations that the Permanent five have undertaken under the NPT.

[Translation]

Support Price

4185. SHRI GAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural costs and prices pays attention towards the support price proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the price of soyabean and gram are likely to be announced as per the price proposed by the State during the next few years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), prior to submitting their reports, consult the State Governments and various other public institutions and concerned interests. The CACP visit different States for eliciting the views of the State Governments and various other interests including farmers, trade and industry and also invite the representatives of various organisations and State Governments for detailed discussions with the Commission in New Delhi.

While formulating their recommendations, the CACP consider the following important factors:—

- (1) Cost of Production.
- (2) Changes in input prices.
- (3) Input/Output price parity.

- (4) Trends in market prices.
- (5) Demand and Supply situation.
- (6) Inter-Crop price parity.
- (7) Effect on industrial cost structure.
- (8) Effect on general price level.
- (9) Effect on cost of living.
- (10) International market price situation.
- (11) Parity between price paid and prices received by farmers (Terms of Trade)

Based on the recommendations of the CACP and also taking into account the views of the State Governments and Central Ministries as well as other relevant factors, the Government announces each season the minimum support prices for major agricultural commodities including soybean and gram.

Disparity in Per Capita

4186. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI ASHOK NAM DEORAO MOHOL:
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is disparity in the per capita income/ expenditure in rural and urban areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government propose to appoint a Commission for conducting survey to bridge this gap; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the Commission is likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION) (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The estimate of income in rural and urban areas are not available. However, as per the latest Consumer Expenditure Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in its 50th Round

(July, 1993 to June, 1994), the per capita consumption expenditure in urban areas is 62.8 per cent more than that in rural areas.

(c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to appoint a Commission for conducting survey in this regard. The survey on rural and urban expenditure will continue to be conducted by the NSSO.

(d) Does not arise.

Oil Seeds

4187. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:
SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the annual production and per capita consumption of oil seeds in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study regarding the acreage under oil seeds in the country;

(c) if so the details thereof State-wise;

(d) the acreage, production and consumption of oils, in comparison with other developing countries for the last three years;

(e) whether the Government propose to import oil seeds to save the oil mills in the public sector from closure and make full use of their installed capacity; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) State-wise annual production of oilseeds in the country during 1995-96 to 1997-98 is given in the Statement-I enclosed. State-wise per capita consumption of oilseeds in the country is not maintained. However, the approximate requirement of edible oil in the country is assessed at the present rate of 8.00 kgs. Per capita per year consumption.

(b) and (c) A well established crop estimation methodology of complete enumeration for reporting the area and crop cutting experiment for production and productivity of oilseeds is already in existence in the country due to which the need to conduct any study is not felt.