

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, wood is mostly used for cooking purposes. In Rajasthan, not only wood but cow dung cakes are also used as fuel. It affects the agricultural production. At present, only some big cities in this state have been provided with gas connections. There has been no expansion of gas facility in big towns. So far as my constituency is concerned there is only one gas agency at Tonk. In the rest of the areas such as Neewai, Unniyara, Deoli etc. You have not provided gas connections. I want to know about the norms laid down for opening a gas agency? What should be the population of a town where you release gas agency?

MR. SPEAKER: This question has been answered several times.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a gas agency in every district of Rajasthan. As many as 58 more places have been selected about which action is being taken. In this year's marketing plan 9 more places have been selected. As I had stated that a committee was constituted after the Prime Minister's tour and it has also recommended certain places and we are taking action on that. Apart from this, we are expanding the areas handled by the existing gas agencies. With this, I do not think that your problem will be solved but we are making considerable efforts and we are paying full attention in this regard.

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Himachal Pradesh, because of felling of trees in the interior areas, gas agencies are functioning in areas where there is only some population as in Rondou, Jubbal, Rampur and Tuni which is adjacent to your area Padosa. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what action is being taken to release gas agencies on priority basis in the hilly areas and what efforts are being made to check the felling of forests?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Mr. Speaker,

Sir, it is concerned with an area neighbouring my constituency. Whatever work is done there will affect our area as well. It is essential to expand the supply of gas in the hilly areas so that the environment can be protected. We are installing a bottling plant at Jammu which will solve the problem in this regard. We are setting up one bottling plant at Parwanu in Himachal Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER: You are making Parwana.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: The name is Parwanu and not Parwana. The language is Parwanu so it is spoken as Parwana. Apart from that, a scheme for bottling small cylinders has also been prepared to supply gas to the far flung areas of the hilly region. Arrangements are also being made to have adequate storage at Leh in Kashmir Valley as well.

Allocation of Essential Commodities to Madhya Pradesh

*417 SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of sugar, rice, wheat and edible oil allocated to Madhya Pradesh during 1984-85, 1985-86, and 1986-87, month-wise; and

(b) the quota being allocated during the current year, month-wise?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). A statement indicating the required information is given below.

STATEMENT

Allotment of sugar, rice, wheat and edible oil to Madhya Pradesh during the years 1984-85, 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto August)

Quantity in '000 tonnes

	Sugar (Levy)	Rice	Wheat PDS	R.F. Mills	Edible PDS	oil SPS
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1984-85						
April	23.28	18.00	25.00	5.50	3.00	0.60
May	23.28	18.00	25.00	5.50	3.00	0.60
June	23.28	18.00	25.00	5.50	3.00	0.50
July	23.28	18.00	25.00	5.50	4.00	0.70
August	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	4.00	0.80
September	27.00	18.00	25.00	14.32	4.00	0.80
October	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	4.00	0.80
November	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	4.00	0.80
December	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	4.00	0.80
January	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	3.60	0.20
February	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	3.60	0.32
March	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	3.60	0.20
Total	283.08	216.00	300.00	136.56	43.80	7.00
1985-86						
April	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	2.50	0.50
May	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	1.55	0.025
June	27.00	18.00	25.00	14.32	1.55	0.025
July	23.28	18.00	25.00	14.32	1.55	0.025
August	27.00	18.00	25.00	13.07	1.78	0.025
September	27.00	23.00	35.00	13.07	1.78	0.025
October	27.00	25.00	35.00	13.07	1.78	0.025
November	27.00	30.00	35.00	13.07	1.50	0.025

	1	2	3	4	5	6
December	23.28	25.00	35.00	13.07	1.20	0.025
January	23.28	25.00	50.00	13.07	1.00	0.025
February	23.28	25.00	50.00	19.61	1.00	0.025
March	23.28	25.00	50.00	19.61	1.00	0.025
Total	297.96	268.00	415.00	174.92	18.19	0.325
1986-87						
April	23.28	25.00	50.00	19.61	1.00	0.025
May	23.28	25.00	50.00	19.61	1.50	0.025
June	23.28	25.00	50.00	19.61	1.50	0.025
July	23.28	25.00	50.00	19.61	1.50	0.025
August	23.28	25.00	50.00	19.61	3.00	0.025
September	27.00	25.00	50.00	19.61	3.00	0.05
October	27.00	25.00	50.00	—	3.00	0.05
November	23.28	25.00	50.00	—	3.00	0.02
December	23.28	25.00	50.00	—	2.00	0.02
January	23.28	25.00	50.00	—	2.00	0.02
February	25.03	25.00	50.00	—	2.00	0.02
March	25.03	25.00	50.00	—	2.00	0.02
Total	290.30	300.00	600.00	117.66	25.50	0.325
1987-88						
April	25.03	25.00	50.00	—	2.00	—
May	25.03	25.00	50.00	—	2.00	—
June	25.03	25.00	50.00	—	1.30	1.00
July	25.03	25.00	50.00	—	1.50	1.00
August	25.03	25.00	50.00	—	3.50	1.00
Total	125.15	125.00	250.00	—	10.30	3.00

Allotment of Wheat to Roller Flour Mills from Central Pool discontinued from October, 1986

- 1 RFM — Roller Flour Mills
2. PDS — Public Distribution System
3. SPS — Small Packs Scheme

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister deserves congratulations for laying the reply of my question on the Table of the House. I only would like to ask whether the entire quota of edible oil allotted by the Centre to Madhya Pradesh is lifted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh or not?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: So far as edible oils are concerned, during the last three years we have seen that the entire allocated quota of edible oil is not lifted. However, whatever has been allocated this year has been almost entirely lifted.

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: In 1983 and 1984, 40 thousand metric tonnes of oil was allotted for Madhya Pradesh but in 1984 and 1985 only 31,290 metric tonnes of oil was allocated. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the reasons for reducing the quota by 10 thousand metric tonnes?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: The reason for it is non-lifting of quota. Whatever, edible oil was allocated, it was not lifted. We had allocated 43 thousands tonnes in 1983-84 but that was not entirely lifted. That is why the quota was reduced next year but even then the State Government did not lift the whole quota.

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Minister that the quota which you are allocating is less than half of what the Government of Madhya Pradesh had demanded. The stipulated quota of edible oil is less than half of what has been demanded by the State Government. It was mentioned that the entire allocated quota was not lifted last year. The reason is that we used to manage to meet the requirements of oil somehow but during the last 2 years, the allocation has been so less that the Government of Madhya Pradesh had to request for the enhancement of this quota, but in spite of such requests, the allocation has been reduced. I want to

know as to how much quota was demanded by the State Government and how much is being allocated?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): I would like to tell the hon. Member that edible oil allotment is not made to any State on the basis of their demand only. It depends on various factors. One is demand. No. 2 is availability of oil with us. No. 3 is, the condition prevailing in that State. No. 4 is, what was the quantum of oil allocated, how much was lifted or how much was actually taken by the State. It is not only in the State of Madhya Pradesh that oil has not gone according to the demand because this is an imported oil. There cannot be unlimited import. That is why, it was given on the basis of actual lifting also. It showed that what they demanded was not really needed. What was actually given or allotted was still much more than what was lifted by the State. Now, we have raised their allocations more than that of earlier. Now, they are also lifting it better. To the best of our capacity and the stocks which are available, we try to bridge the gap between demand and supply by improving the imported oil, which we have done. There has been shofffall, particularly due to drought conditions. We are trying to do as best as we can.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: My question has not been answered. What was their demand and how much has been supplied?

[*English*]

SHRI M RAGHUMA REDDY: The State Minister is substituted by the Cabinet Minister.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: There is no difference. She wanted the exact figure

and I would like to give her the exact figures.

[*Translation*]

If lifting is 100 per cent, thereafter they can increase the demand. If lifting is 100 per cent, it means that there is demand. In 1984-85, allocation was 31,290 tonnes and only 18,257 tonnes was lifted and in 1985-86, the allocation was 20,000 tonnes and against that allocation only 13,573 tonnes was lifted and in 1986-87 (upto July), 17,800 tonnes was allocated and only 15,000 tonnes has been lifted. Two thousand tonnes of edible oils are still lying with them about which they have yet to decide.

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Sir, it is not a reply to my question. I had asked as to what was their demand and he is replying something else.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. I am satisfied. No. No question. They are given 17,000. They are lifting only 15,000. What is this? No. Not allowed.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Our Government requested the Central Government to permit the State agency like the Civil Supplies Corporation to procure rice just at the rates on which the Food Corporation of India purchased, to further strengthen our public distribution system to supply essential commodities whereas the Government is permitting in Punjab the State agencies to procure.

MR. SPEAKER: It is irrelevant. There is no question. What are the points?

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: What is the policy?

MR. SPEAKER: Let us be relevant. You put a separate question. I will get the answer.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: We are talking here of allocation and quota. These are

hypothetical things. The question is what the State wanted and what they physically received. One of the revealing thing is that despite getting an allocation, the State Government could not lift what was allocated. Obviously the allocation is on a certain basis. It is on the basis of the demand which is there in the district. If the State Government is not lifting it, does it mean that the State Government is helping the Central Government to conserve the stocks or is it that the State Government is incapable of lifting because in the districts of Madhya Pradesh (*Interruptions*) these are areas where foodgrains are not reaching. Despite whatever lifting, in large parts of districts foodgrains are not there. Does the Central Government, after having allocated, after having despatched, whatever quantity it be, also monitor that these foodgrains move onwards to the districts?

MR. SPEAKER: What are the State Governments there for?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The State Governments monitor. I am only asking about monitoring.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let them do it.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Let the hon. Minister reply.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: I am answering your question. I have already answered this question that the allocations are not made exactly on the basis of demand. What is allocated is re-allocated. They have got it from the State Trading Corporation and they have to distribute it. The actual lifting by Madhya Pradesh Government has improved than before. It has improved. We have to go into this question of allocation. Sometimes allocation has been done. Sometimes State Government does not lift it. There are some problems. Sometimes, the oil may not be available with the depots. Therefore, I cannot today blame the State Government for this. If the hon. Member wants, I shall specifically find out why the lifting was done from this point.

[*Translation*]

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: The Central Government says that it allocates the quota and the Government of Madhya Pradesh does not lift it and on the other hand, the Madhya Pradesh Government says that they want edible oil but they are not getting it. There is something wrong in it due to the procedure. The Food Minister says that the Government has been allocating edible oil but they are not lifting it. They say that they are not getting it. Would you streamline this procedure?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No. Mr. Minister, one minute, before you go ahead. Regarding Q. No. 416, our hon. Member was not present. But I would like you to look into this matter. It seems to be quite funny. Please look into it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am talking about Q. No. 416. The answer to this question is quite disturbing. You have to find out.

AN HON. MEMBER: There should be a debate on this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need for a debate. This is something which has to be rectified.

Two-wheeler Industry

* 418. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU .

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to help save the ailing two-wheeler industry from the crisis situation; and

(b) if so, the measures contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Some of the two wheeler manufacturers had represented to the Government about the financial problems faced by them due to high cost of production. The representations were considered and recently the total customs duty for fuel efficient two-wheeler vehicles has been reduced from 50% to 35%.

SHRI S.M. GURADDI : Sir, in his answers, the hon. Minister has stated that they have offered some customs duty concessions. The Industry has asked for sufficient finances from the Banks or from the financial agencies. I would like to know whether the Government has given the clearance for the manufacturers to obtain their requirements through the Banks or the financial agencies.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : How do you know that they have asked for finances? We do not know about it?

SHRI S.M. GURADDI: They have asked for certain other concessions also but they have not asked for customs duty concession only. The point is they are asking for their requirements from the Banks and other Institutions liberal help for meeting the working capital needs. I would like to know whether this matter has been considered or not

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : Sir, there is no complaint from the manufacturers that they have not been getting any assistance from the financial institutions. Moreover, the two-wheeler people are getting deposits in advance from the customers and they are supplying. Even, they have not yet been in a position to supply to the depositors.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY . Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the excise duty has been reduced from 50 per