

**Mr. Speaker:** That is also a suggestion for action. We are dealing with the import ban here.

### Sulphate of Ammonia

\*1544. **Shri Ball Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 700 and its supplementaries on the 31st May, 1957 and state whether Government are considering the reduction of the price of Sulphate of Ammonia?

**The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** No Sir. The revision will be considered by the beginning of next year.

**Shri Ball Reddy:** May I know whether it has come to the notice of Government that due to delay in the supply of sulphate of ammonia in sufficient quantities, agriculturists have to purchase it in the black market at exorbitant rates?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** No, Sir. There is some delay in the supply of this imported fertilizer because of the Suez crisis and steamers arriving late, but of whatever is available inside the country proper distribution is being made.

**Shri Nanjappa:** Is it a fact that tea plantations in South India are not supplied with sufficient quantity of sulphate of ammonia and are supplied with other fertilizers which are not useful and do not stand the hill climate?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** We are able to meet their demands adequately because their demands are very little, less than four or five thousand tons. We have met their demands.

**Shri Wodeyar:** In view of its shortage, will Government consider the desirability of subsidising this product in the interest of increased production of foodgrains?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The whole scheme is run on a no-profit no-loss basis and we are not subsidising fertilizers.

**Shri Ranga:** When would you be reconsidering the price schedule of sulphate of ammonia?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** That will be considered in the beginning of next year when the landed cost may cost us less.

### RE. STARRED QUESTION NO. 1541

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** Sir, may I, with your permission, supplement the answers I gave to the supplementaries to Question No. 1541† regarding payment of royalty by Messrs. P. C. Ray & Company? The position was that the Government have made an arrangement with Messrs. P. C. Ray & Company for the payment of royalty of Rs. 50,000 for each shipment. When the question of non-payment later came up it was arranged that Government will temper its recovery of royalty and the Company will pay Rs. 2 lakhs out of the proceeds of the shipping towards the wages of labour by the end of the first week of September and the rest of the payment will be made shortly.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Mechanised Port in Hooghly

\*1543. **Shri Bimal Ghose:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether, and if so, what action has been taken on a non-official resolution adopted by the other House on the 7th December, 1956 about the feasibility of developing a fully mechanised coal and ore port on the west bank of the lower Hooghly?