

Import of Sugar

*393. **Shrimati Tla Palchoudhury** : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sugar has been imported from East Germany during the current year;

(b) if so, the quantity imported so far;

(c) how the quality and price of this sugar compare with the quality and price of sugar produced in India; and

(d) whether any sugar has been imported from West Germany during the above period?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : (a) Yes.

(b) 80,533 tons.

(c) East German sugar is manufactured from Sugar beet while the sugar in India is produced from sugarcane. Taking into consideration the colour and size of grain East German sugar is equal to I.S.S.E. 23 grade of Indian sugar. In view of the fact that East German sugar is produced from beet and has comparatively inferior packing, it sells at a discount of -12/- to Rs.1/8/- per maund, as compared with similar grade of Indian sugar.

(d) No.

Fertilizers

*394. **Shri Ram Shankar Lal** : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of fertilizers imported so far under the Indo-U. S. Technical Co-operation Agreement;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of these fertilizers have been given free of cost to the State Governments; and

(c) if so, the terms on which the State Governments are required to distribute them to cultivators?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain) : (a) 2,39,400 tons of various fertilizers as on 30-6-1955. Part of it was in transit.

(b) No. Only 6,936 tons were supplied free of cost to States upto the end of March, 1955.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 33].

Calcutta Port

*396. **Shri B. D. Shastri** : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the progress made as far in the construction of a suction dredger at the Calcutta port?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : An order for the construction of a suction dredger for the Port of Calcutta was placed in June, 1955. The dredger is expected to be delivered in August, 1957.

Machkund Project

*397. **Shri Sanganna** : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 2672 on the 28th April, 1955 regarding the Machkund Project Soil Erosion Scheme and state the stage at which the matter now stands?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain) : The scheme was fully considered and a Subsidy of Rs. 4,70,100, and a loan of Rs. 9,40,200 have since been sanctioned.

स्वयंचालित तुला

*४०३. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) स्वयंचालित तुला (एक घाना डालने पर भार बताने वाले यंत्र) अब तक कितने स्टेशनों पर लगाये गये हैं; और

(ख) १९५४-५५ में इन यंत्रों से कितनी आय हुई ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सहायक सचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) :
(क) ११३ ।

(ख) १,१६,०६६ रु० ११ आ० ३ पाई ।

Eastern Shipping Corporation

*404. **Shri Ibrahim** : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the total number of ships with their respective purchase costs owned at present by the Eastern Shipping Corporation; and