I am saying that we must have a permanent and fixed policy for export so that this does not arise in future and the farmer is happy with the situation and you are also happy.

AUGUST 3, 1999

AN HON. MEMBER: What about the dues?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Regarding dues, I shall ask the Textile Ministry to see into this because CCI is under them,. They will find out and you can put a question to them about this.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Govemment give Bonus to farmers on purchase of cotton.

[English]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : That is with the Textile Ministry. I can refer it to them and you put a question to them.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS-Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister that due to inconsistent and unstable prices since last year, the cotton growing farmers have undergone lot of difficulties. Especially in the southern region, the CCI has not so far come to the assistance that was needed by the farmers. Actually, this year the farmers are taken aback and there is not much growth of cotton., As we all know, in view of the export policy of the Government of India, the foreign countries are now coming forward to have more cotton textiles, cotton finished goods and cotton semi-finished material. Will, the Ministry think of sitting together with the Textile Ministry and the Commerce Ministry to stop all these hazards to farmers and to evolve some policy so that they can be well assured in advance and so that they can take up the cotton growing areas in advance in their respective regions?

Secondly, cottonseed oil is a very good by- product. Have the Government ordered giving any incentive to grow cotton at least this year onwards because this year monsoon season is almost over? Every year the problem is same and the CCI does not come the assistance of the farmers, especially of the southern States. So, will the Government think of evolving some policy to stop these hardships and to encourage and give lot of incentives to the cotton growing farmers.

SHRI BALARM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already answered that question as to waht are the equations, how it went down, why it wnet down. It is nothing new. The market intervention scheme by CCI is always operated upon and we are trying to safeguard the farmers' interests by giving them the support so that it should not fall below that level.

We have three types of prices. One is when there is a glut, one is when there is a shortage and one is which is beneficial to the farmers as well as to the consumers. So, we are giving the price fixed by the BACP and we announce it in advance. This time we have raised it by about Rs. 100. That is just to save the farmers from this type or fluctuation

Availability of Fertilizers

*102. SHRIMATI GEETAMUKHERJEE: SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a poor response from farmers in regard to purchase of fertilizers during kharif season this year:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

. (c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make fertilizers available to farmers at concessional rate, especially at the time of rabi and Kharif seasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI ARVIND NETAM) (a) The sale of Nitrogenous fertilizers so far during Kharif, 1993 is higher than the sales in the same period in Kharif, 92. However, there has been a decline in sale of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers.

(b) and (c) While the sale of Urea has gone up, the sales of DAP and MOP have gone down mainly due to the increase in prices consequent on their decontrol in Augurs 1992. The Government of India have provided a sum of Rs. 756 crores for sale of decontrolled fertilizers at concessional rates during the Kharif and Rabi seasons during the current Year.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, will the Government state how much of the sum of Rs. 756 crore as stated in the answer provided by the Government, has already been released?

In view of the complaint from a large number of peasants in different States that they did not get the fertilizers and concessional rates, will the government state whether the know what percentage of peasants have really been able to get this concession? If the complaint is true- I believe it is true as I know- what is the Government doing to upset that situation?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Sir, this year Government has provided for Rs. 756 crore as relief. The amount available is Rs. 150 crore just now. But we have released the first instalment of Rs. 74 crore.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, before I go to my second supplementary, I want to ask one clarification., So, it is clear that you have really released very little of the total. The next season has already stared. How do you want to face the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Sir, as and when the States demand more, we give them., We have already released Rs. 89 crore. We are always at the beck and call of the State Ministries to meet their demands. Whenever they ask for more or they have utilized the money given, we immediately release money and there is no problem $\ensuremath{\wp}$

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, the Government says clearly that sales of DAP and MOP have gone down mainly due to increase in prices consequent on their decontrol in august, 1992. Now the Government has permitted the import of DAP and that too is directly to benefit the American monopoly interest because it is from them that you are getting that. It is at the behest of the I.M.F. Mayo I know whether the Government will consider the question of subsidizing at least the indigenous industries of DAP so that the peasants and the industry both can be saved?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I do not where this phobia of I.M.F. comes form. I have never cared about that. I am giving Rs. 1,000 per tonne to the indigenous industry and they have already started out. Out of ten. six have already started and four are also coming on the line. That is one thing. The hon member may rest assured that we are not going to be chastened by anybody.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, the Government has admitted that the price of certain fertilizers has gone up. The Government has said some Rs. 756 crore have been given. On the other day the Prime Minister announced that in the DAP Industry, where they are closed, they will be given Rs.1,000 per tonne.. But now the question is whether this Rs. 1,000 will also be given to the American DAP or the foreign DAP which is being sold in the country, whether it will not indirectly finance them.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Where does it come from?

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: I also want to know that when the DAP was de-canalised, why other fertilzers were not de-canalised? Is a fact that on the advice of the multinational agencies, to save American Industry, the Government has decanalised only DAP? These are the two parts of my question.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no remedy for fear. We have started to industries. We also want that our industries should compete with them. There is no question of giving loans to them. They already have to repay the loans amounting to Rs. 6200 crore. I want that we should compete with them, as potassium phosphate is not available here.

[English]

We all bring them and manufacture them. I want my industry to compete with them fully, I want to sustain them, I want to resurrect them, I want to have a good healthy competitive industry of my own and that is what we are trying to do and nothing to do with this.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: I want to have clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 103-Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. This will not be replied. This is not going on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not to be replied. Lokanathji, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Lokanathji, this is not going on record. You can leave it at that.

(Interruptions)**

MR.SPEAKER: Your are imposing your will on the House. You should go by what I am saying from here. This is to facilitate other Member. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)**

Commercial Exploitation of Railway Land

*103 PROF. UMMA REDDY VENKATESWARLU: SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level delegation had recently visited European countries to gather first hand knowledge of commercial exploitation of railway land;

(b) if so, the details thereof including composition of the delegation and expenditure incurred thereon: and

(c) the details of the experiences gathered by the delegation and how it is to be implemented in Indian conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the "Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Yes. Sir. The delegation comprised Minister of Railways (with one personal assistant), Chairman, Member Engineering, Executive Director (Land Management) and Executive Director (Finance) of Railway Board. The delegation visited U.K. and France. The latter three members of the delegation also visited Sweden. An expenditure of Rs. 17 lakes (approximately) was incurred on this visit.

(c) The delegation held discussions with the concerned authorities and visited sites where commercial exploitation of railway land/airspace has been done to gather information on the nature and scope of commercial exploitation of land/properties by Railways in these countries. methodologies adopted, organisational set up. etc. The experience thus gathered, with necessary modifications so as to suit the Indian

"Not recorded