

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b). The question whether a teacher, who is elected to the Parliament or a State Legislature, may be allowed to continue teaching work without being obliged to resign his teaching position or taking leave from the University or College has been considered by the University Grants Commission. The Commission has expressed the view that "the teachers who are either elected or nominated to the Parliament/State Legislatures may not be required to resign their academic position or to take long leave during the tenure of their membership. In order that the teaching work may not suffer, the University may consider prescribing the minimum number of days that such teachers should be available for their academic teaching and research work in the University. Such teachers should not hold any administrative positions/responsibilities during the period they are members of Parliament/Legislatures". This view of the Commission, with which the Government/Legislature". This view of the to the notice of all the State Governments and Universities. The academic freedom of teachers to pursue and publish independent studies and researches and to speak and write about significant national and international issues should be protected.

World Bank Aid for Seed Industry at Nagpur

2889. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to seek World Bank Assistance for setting up a seed industry in Nagpur region;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) at what stage of consideration the matter stands; and

(d) steps taken/proposed to expedite the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) to (d). A proposal has been made to the World Bank for taking up a seed Project in Maharashtra with Bank assistance. The draft project Report had been discussed with World Bank officials and it is at present under consideration of the Bank. The Government of India have also decided to formulate a National Seeds Project to establish organised seed production agencies in some of the States in the country. The World Bank has agreed in principle to support such a seeds Project. The Maharashtra Seed Project is, therefore, proposed for inclusion as a sub-project of the National Seeds Project.

Price and Sale of Imported Fertilizer

2890. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of fertilizers sold by the Fertilizer Corporation of India during the years 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75 (upto date);

(b) the percentage of imported fertilizers sold during these years; and

(c) the prices at which different fertilizers were sold at different times?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) The total quantity of fertilisers sold by the Fertiliser Corporation of India during the years