

हैं और ऐसे अन्य संगठनों को नहीं दी जाती।

ऐसे निकायों को रियायत देने के सम्बन्ध में इन सभी वर्षों में उसी नीति का पालन किया गया सिवाय वर्ष 1976 के जब मंत्री के आदेश के अनुसार निम्नलिखित तीन मामलों में भी रियायत दी गयी :—

- (1) इंडियन यूथ कांग्रेस द्वारा नयी दिल्ली में आयोजित ब्लॉक यूथ कांग्रेस अध्यक्षों के सम्मेलन में भाग लेने वाले प्रतिनिधियों को (अगस्त 1976)।
- (2) अखिल भारतीय कांग्रेस कमेटी की गोहाटी में हुई बैठक में भाग लेने वाले इंडियन यूथ कांग्रेस के प्रतिनिधियों को (नवम्बर, 1976)।
- (3) नवम्बर 1976 के दौरान अखिल भारतीय कांग्रेस कमेटी की केन्द्रीय अभियान समिति द्वारा आयोजित राज्य यूनिटों के विभिन्न राष्ट्रीय मंचों के पूर्वीय क्षेत्र अभियोग में भाग लेने के लिए हावड़ा से गोहाटी जाने और वापस आने वाले प्रतिनिधियों को।

Cost of Production of Fertilizers

186. SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined that the prices of fertilizers are reasonable so as to facilitate all round agricultural development;

(b) if not, the concrete steps taken to ensure sizeable reduction in the cost of production of fertilizers;

(c) whether the study reported to have been made regarding cost of production has been completed; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof and the time by which impact is expected to be felt on the price of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):

(a) Prices of fertilizers, which had to be raised in June, 1974 because of sharp rise in international prices, have been revised downward a number of times since then. In fixing prices of fertilizers the cost of production of indigenous produce and import prices are taken into account. Apart from, adjusting prices of fertilizers, prices of several agricultural products have also been revised from time to time. In adjusting prices of inputs and agricultural products, consideration is also *inter-alia* given to the effect that these prices have an agricultural output.

(b) to (d). While various measures are taken on a continuing basis to improve plant efficiencies and bring down production costs, the production cost in each plant is determined primarily by the capital cost of the plant and the cost of feedstock and other utilities. Investment on the fertilizer plants should also be allowed a reasonable return. Government had set up a Fertilizer Prices Committee to recommend a pricing policy that would ensure a fair return on investment on a sustained basis, and this Committee has carried out a detailed study of the cost of production in each fertilizer plant. The Committee has since submitted Part I of the Report relating to nitrogenous fertilizers. Part II of the Report relating to phosphatic fertilizers is yet to be submitted. While considering the recommendations of the Committee, Government would bear in mind the need to make fertilizers available to the farmer at as reasonable price, as possible with a view to facilitate around agricultural development.