

Trucks and Sewage Machinery purchased by MCD

5690. SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Delhi recently purchased trucks and sewage machinery worth around Rs. 2 crores at the *flag end* of the year to utilise its budget provisions;

(b) if so, whether any tenders were invited;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the firm/firms from which these purchases were made?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) MCD has placed orders for supply of 20 Tipper Trucks and 27 Sewer Cleaning Machines (bucket type) at a cost of Rs. 130.79 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The equipments are being procured on DGS&D Rate Contract Prices.

(d) Tipper Trucks are being procured from M/s Tata Engineering and Locomotive Co. and Sewer Cleaning Machines (bucket type) from M/s Mechanical Movements Pvt. Ltd.

Production capacity of PPL

5691. SHRI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the rated capacity of Paradeep Phosphate Ltd. (PPL) in Orissa;

(b) the target fixed for production during 1989-90;

(c) whether the plant has achieved its production target during the last financial year; and

(d) if so, the details of the production achieved by PPL in that year?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The annual installed capacity of Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL) is 7,20,000 tonnes of Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP).

(b) to (d). Against the target of 6,30,000 MT of DAP, actual production during 1989-90 was 2,47,000 tonnes.

[*Translation*]

Breeding of Sheep to Produce Merino Type Wool

5692. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:

DR. BANGALI SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Desh main merino oon ke liye bheron ki nai nasal' appearing in daily 'Jagran' dated 10 March, 1990;

(b) if so, whether any new variety of sheep has been bred at Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar which can yield merino type wool;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(d) whether any efforts are being made to reduce the import of merino wool?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

(c) (i) A fine apparel wool strain 'Avivastra' has been evolved primarily from Rambouillet Chokla half-breeds. The Avivastra produces around 2.5 Kg. annual greasy fleece of 20 microns average fibre diameter and 21 percent medullation.

(ii) A high producing strain of fine wool sheep 'Bharat Merino' has been evolved through interbreeding and selection of 3/4ths of Rambouillet and Merino with Chokla, Nali, Malpura and Jaisalmeri breeds. The annual grossy wool yield of 'Bharat Merino' is around 2.47 Kg. of 18.95 microns in average fibre diameter and 1.23 percent medullation.

(iii) Two new fine wool synthetics, one involving Chokla and the other involving Nali have been generated by crossing with Rambouillet and Societ Merino.

(d) Based on the extensive and systematic research on improving sheep for fine wool, large scale cross-breeding of sheep in the hilly regions of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh has been undertaken to help reduce the import of fine wool.

[English]

Standby Workers in Paradip Port

5693. **SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHARY:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are some workers called standby brinkmen and signalmen working in Paradip Port;

(b) if so, number thereof and since when they are being kept in the standby list; and

(c) the steps being taken if any to bring them in the regular list?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN): (a) and (b). In the Paradip Port Cargo Handling Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1979 which came into force from February, 1980, the workers are categorised under two lists namely, Main List and Subsidiary List or Standby List. In the Subsidiary List, at present, there are 32 Winchmen and 13 Signalmen besides 637 Mazdoors and Sardars and one Deck foreman. There is no category of brinkmen in either of the lists.

(c) In the Special Leave Petition No. 3276 of 1987 filed by the Paradip Port Trust the Supreme Court in its order dated 15.3.90 has constituted a High Power Committee with Justice H.R. Khanna, Retired Judge of Supreme Court as Chairman to decide the question of listing the unlisted workers in Paradip.

Changes in Firearms Licensing Policy in Punjab

5694. **SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:**
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make some changes in the firearms licensing policy in Punjab in view of the need of the people for self protection; and

(b) if so, the details of the changes proposed to be made?