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229. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

Adulteration in Fertilizers

- (a) whether Government have received any complaints from the States about large scale adulteration of fertilizers;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No complaints about the large scale adulteration of fertilizers were received by the Government of India from States. However, a few complaints of specific cases were received from the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and the Union territory of Delhi during 1989-90.

(c) The complaints received from the States of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have been referred to the State Governments for inquiry and taking appropriate action under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. The complaint relating to the Union Territory of Delhi was not found to be correct In case of a complaint received from Haryana, action has been initiated against the manufacturer whose sample was found to be non-standard.

[English]

Improvement of National Highway Connecting Calcutta with Bangladesh Borders

230. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken for the improvement of the National Highway connecting Calcutta with Bangladesh borders running through the district of North 24 Parganas in West Bengal:
- (b) whether there is any proposal for construction of a permanent bridge over the river Ichhamati, at Bongaon, in place of the existing Pontoon bridge; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-TIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The Road link from Calcutta to Bangladesh Border falls partly on two-lane National Highway 34 upto Barasat (23 Kms.) and thereafter on single lane National Highway 35 (59.8 Kms.). National Highway 34 is in a satisfactory condition and for improving Nutional Highway 35, in the 7th plan, there is a provision for strengthening/widening of a length of 20 Kms. Widening and strengthening work has been sanctioned for 7.3 Kms, out of which 3 Kms. have been completed. Technical data for another 12 Kms, have been approved and the estimate is awaited from the State Government. Two works for construction of culverts and miscellaneous works have been approved at a cost of about Rs. 6 lakhs and progress achieved so far is 90% and 65% respectively.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The work has been included in the current year's programme and other steps like location of the new bridge, sanction of estimate for survey and investigation and clearance of technical proposal have also been taken.

Fall in Price of Onion in Maharashtra

- 231. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether the onion prices have come